

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



6 Questions with McKinley Weatherford

Civil Engineering

What made you choose engineering?

I chose engineering because I enjoy problem-solving, and civil engineering allows me to apply those skills to help create safe, sustainable infrastructure for my community.

What was your earliest engineering project?

During my second quarter at Cal Poly, I worked as a student researcher on the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department's Delta Digitization Project. During my time with the team, I analyzed 42 years' worth of tidal records to assess and better understand past and future sea level trends.

Where do you like to hang out on campus?

You will likely find me in the courtyard of Building 13.

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy baking, hiking and thrifting.

Tell me about the Steel Bridge Competition and your role in it.

I am the project manager for Cal Poly Steel Bridge. I facilitate the design, fabrication and construction of a scale-model bridge that competes against teams from other universities. I manage team operations and fundraising efforts, oversee club outreach initiatives and am certified to operate advanced machinery in the shop.

What's your dream job after graduation?

My dream job is to work in the transportation sector designing roads, bridges or mass transit systems. This could range from retrofitting bridges for seismic resilience to contributing to large-scale projects such as high-speed rail.