# Should I get a degree if my skills are already proficient?

Probably 95%+ of engineers have college degrees, but there are a few who work their way up through the technician ranks and become engineers. The usual path is to get a 2 year associates degree, then get a job as a technician, then after 10+ years you can apply to get admitted into the engineering ranks. It was rare but it could be done, although I am sure this path lags far behind the college degree path in terms of salary and how challenging and satisfying the job assignments are.