



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM  
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

# 2015 ACE Student Survey

Nearly 150 Portland-area high school students participated in the ACE Mentor Program of Oregon in 2015. Here's what the seniors had to say about their experience.

## Education

- 98%** plan to **graduate from high school**
- 96%** plan to enter a college, university, or skilled trades training program
- 85%** intend to major in architecture, construction management or engineering

## Career Readiness

- 100%** agree ACE gave them useful information about careers in the design/construction industry
- 70%** felt ACE made them more **motivated to go to college** or enter a skilled trades training program
- 73%** agree that ACE has given them a professional network that will help them to advance their careers
- 100%** learned how the different disciplines in the design/construction industry work together to create and build a structure
- 96%** learned life and work skills that will help in any career
- 96%** gained **knowledge and skills not taught in their high school**
- 57%** felt that their studies in high school became more meaningful

## Skills

- 92%** gained leadership experience and skills
- 91%** improved their ability to work collaboratively as part of a team
- 85%** learned something about how to negotiate
- 92%** became more effective problem-solvers
- 92%** strengthened their sense of creativity
- 96%** learned how to **work better with people whose backgrounds and ideas are different** from their own
- 91%** improved their ability to communicate orally in small groups and before large audiences
- 94%** learned better how to communicate graphically (e.g. sketches, diagrams, renderings)
- 74%** learned how to manage time more effectively

“Working with real professionals is something that can’t be beat.”

“This was a great opportunity for me to get **hands-on experience** in the industry. The overall experience gave me more confidence.”

“ACE helped me fill an educational void that my school did not offer me.”

“ACE has been a **very fun and informative** experience, both years I did it. It has given me a lot of experience in teamwork and what the professional world looks like.”

“I greatly enjoyed this program and it has **opened my eyes** to careers I had no idea I would have an interest in.”

“The program has helped me to explore some of my previous interests, narrow down my choice of degree and help create a network of professionals.”

“I think this program is a **powerful tool** that allows high school students, just like me, to get involved with the professional work environment.”

“It’s great! Helped me VISUALIZE a career in Architecture, Construction or Engineering.”

“The ACE Mentor Program was a great experience for me. While it is not a career path I intend to pursue, the program helped me develop various skills that will be vital when I have a job in the future. I learned to **work as a member of a team**, be a leader, let others be leaders, meet deadlines, and so much more.”