

ACE Mentor Program of Oregon

Supporting students' career aspirations in
architecture, construction and engineering

Portland, Oregon 2015-16 • Celebrating a decade of growth and service

What is ACE?

The ACE Mentor Program is a national, proven after-school program that inspires high school students to pursue careers in the Architecture, Construction and Engineering (ACE) fields. ACE also secures business donations for college scholarships.

The Oregon affiliate began a decade ago, in 2006, and first awarded college scholarships in 2007. This Portland-based chapter has grown significantly and now relies on 100 volunteer mentors to serve about 150 students a year from high schools across the metropolitan area.

“ [ACE] is an exemplary model. It's the whole idea of providing students with opportunities after school that we may not be able to provide during the school day. ”

Jeanne Yerkovich, Portland Public Schools administrator



What do students do?

ACE gives students the chance to connect directly with Portland-area professionals in ACE fields. During 12 mentoring sessions held at employer firms between January and May, students:

- Work in teams with mentors and students from other schools on a building design project.
- Visit leading firms, explore different career fields and practice skills such as communication, networking and teamwork.
- “Pitch” their projects to educators, family and ACE professionals at the program finale.

Who makes ACE special?

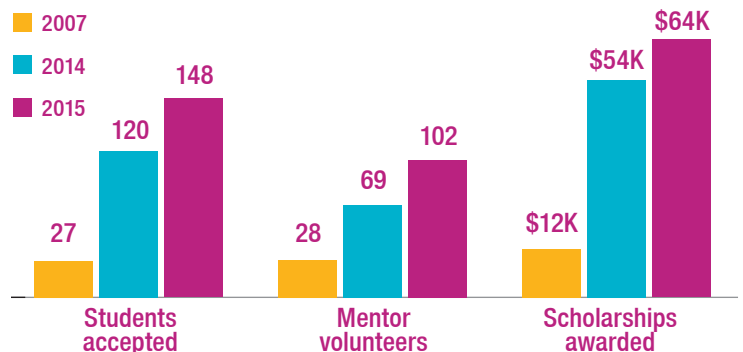
Mentors: About 40 Portland-area firms provide volunteer mentors for students. These mentors serve as professional role models, trusted friends and career advisors. In 2015, 102 Oregon mentors worked closely with 148 students from about three dozen high schools.

Students: ACE leaders welcome students from all backgrounds. In 2015, more than 40% of Oregon ACE students came from higher-poverty schools, 37% were girls and 57% were students of color. ACE's student retention rate neared 85%.

Sponsors: Only with the generous financial support of Oregon firms is ACE able to offer this life-changing career program at no cost to students. ACE sponsors serve as industry leaders and position themselves on the cutting edge of workforce development.

OUR GROWTH IN 2015

148 students accepted	102 mentor volunteers
37% female students	\$64,000 in scholarships to 16 seniors
57% students of color	\$312,000 in scholarships since 2007



85% of ACE Oregon's college-bound seniors major in architecture, construction management or engineering



ACE inspires students to pursue careers in design-and-build fields.

“All I needed was a push in the right direction. My mentors have showed me that I have the potential to achieve things in design far greater than I have ever imagined.”

2015 ACE Student

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

2015 ACE student

“I can’t wait for the day when I can be a mentor for ACE, in order to give back what ACE has given me.”

ACE alumnus

How does ACE make a difference?

Scholarships: The Oregon chapter of ACE has awarded \$312,000 in college scholarships since 2007 to promising students who plan to major in an ACE-related field. In 2015, ACE Oregon awarded \$64,000 to 16 seniors.

Workforce: ACE alumni are graduating from college and using their ACE connections to join the workforce as new employees. Participating firms are seeing their investment pay off.

Career skills: Students who participate in ACE say they learn invaluable career skills, including teamwork and problem-solving. In our recent survey of ACE seniors:

96% said they gained **knowledge and skills** not taught in their school

96% said they learned how to **work better with people** whose backgrounds and ideas are different from their own

70% felt that ACE made them **more motivated to go to college** or enter a skilled trades training program

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Volunteer mentor firms

Andersen Construction	LRS Architects
Bassetti Architects	Mackenzie
Century West	Market Contractors
City of Portland	Mayer/Reed
DOWA-IBI Architects	McKinstry
Emerio Design	Mortenson
Fortis Construction	MWH Global
GBD Architects	Otak
Glumac	PAE Engineers
Greenworks	PCI
Hoffman	Peterson Structural Engineers
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KPFF	Western Partitions
Lease Crutcher Lewis	Yost Grube Hall
	ZCS Engineering
	ZGF Architects

Participating high schools

Alliance	Metropolitan Learning Center
Aloha	Open Meadow
Beaverton	Oregon City
Benson	Oregon Islamic Academy
Canby	Rex Putnam
Central Catholic	Roosevelt
Clackamas	Sandy
Cleveland	Scappoose
David Douglas	Sherwood
De La Salle	St. Mary's Academy
Franklin	Sunset
Grant	Tigard
Health and Science	Tualatin
Jefferson	Valley Catholic
La Center	Westview
La Salle Catholic	Wilson
Lakeridge	Wilsonville
Lincoln	
Madison	
Milwaukie Academy of the Arts	

* 2014-15 school year

Thank you to our ACE partners



Major sponsors in 2014-15

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Apollo Mechanical	Howard S. Wright	Performance Power Concepts
Arcis Corp	INLINE Construction	RF Stearns
Benson Industries	Interface Engineering	Saif Corporation
Charter Mechanical	JE Dunn	Sandahl Pacific
Cherry City Electric	JH Kelly	SERA Architects
Cochran Electric	Johnson Air Products	Siemens
Convergent Technologies	Johnson Barrow	Skanska
Cornerstone	Kittleson & Associates Inc	SRG Partnership
Crescent Electric	KPFF	Swinerton Builders
Deacon	LCG Pence Construction	TCM Corp
DOWA – IBI Group	Lease Crutcher Lewis	The Daily Journal of Commerce
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Eaton	Mackenzie	Turner Construction
Emerick Construction	Mayer/Reed	TVA Architects
Environmental Controls Corp	McKinstry	Unico
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