



**ACE MENTOR PROGRAM**  
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

# 2016 ACE Student Survey

Nearly 150 high school students from the Portland metro area participated in the ACE Mentor Program of Oregon in 2016. Here's what they said about their experience.

## CAREER READINESS



**95%** gained knowledge and skills not taught in their high school

- 93%** learned **life and work skills** that will help in any career
- 92%** agree ACE gave them useful information about careers in the design/construction industry
- 75%** felt ACE made them more **motivated to go to college** or enter a skilled trades training program
- 78%** think participating in ACE probably improved their chances of being admitted to college or a skilled trades training program
- 74%** agree that ACE has given them a **professional network** that will help them to advance their careers
- 99%** learned how the different disciplines in the design/construction industry work together to create and build a structure
- 68%** felt that their studies in high school became more meaningful

## SKILLS



**90%** improved their ability to work collaboratively as part of a team

- 88%** gained **leadership experience** and skills
- 75%** learned something about how to negotiate
- 75%** became more effective problem-solvers
- 80%** strengthened their sense of creativity
- 80%** learned how to **work better with people whose backgrounds and ideas are different** from their own
- 85%** improved their ability to communicate orally in small groups and before large audiences
- 86%** learned better how to communicate graphically (e.g. sketches, diagrams, renderings)
- 70%** learned how to manage time more effectively

## FEEDBACK

**“I genuinely enjoyed the program and felt that I received a broad spectrum of skills.”**

- “It has **opened my eyes** into the fields of architecture and engineering.”
- “[ACE] introduced me into the world of architecture in a way that gave me a much more **hands on experience** than I ever received in the classroom. ... I’ll use the skills I’ve gained in this program throughout my life.”
- “ACE has taught me a lot and had showed me to interact with people more and **not be afraid to express my ideas.**”
- “It made my dream of becoming an interior designer seem that much more real.”
- “It showed me how much effort and work I need to put into my education.”
- “[ACE] helped me have a **better idea of what I want to do in life.**”
- “I was able to narrow my career choice and realized that I want to become a mechanical engineer. This program is great, because **it teaches students how real professionals work** on a daily basis.”
- “ACE allowed me to dig into some career fields that I have always been interested in.”
- “ACE gave me the opportunity to collaborate with professionals in fields related to construction.”
- “It gave me a chance to explore different career options.”
- “It really helped me **grow as person.**”