



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

# 2019 Topping Out Awards

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**Application  
And Information**

**Austin  
Chapter**

The **ACE Mentor Program** is an after-school program designed to motivate high school students toward architecture, construction management, and construction related engineering careers.

**ACE Austin** consists of weekly meetings where students work directly with professionals from leading area firms. The weekly sessions allow the students insight into daily activities at these firms. Sessions consists of relevant hands-on design activities and tours of local construction sites, professional offices, and the University of Texas Schools of Architecture and Engineering. The students assume the various roles of construction professionals in a final design project culminating with a final presentation showcase, which is open for all to attend. In addition to the valuable learning and social opportunities, participating students are eligible to receive scholarship awards for the advancement of higher education goals in the design and construction field.

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The ACE Mentor Program of Austin is excited to encourage all participating students to continue pursuing an education in the A-C-E fields. We will be offering at least **three individual Topping Out Awards** to eligible **High School Freshmen and Sophomores**.

Each award will be geared towards the winner's primary interests with an estimated value of **\$500**; awards will consist of a variety of items intending to cultivate creativity and excitement about their participation in the ACE Mentor Program and their potential future in our industry.

### **Eligibility**

Candidates for the ACE Mentor Program's Topping Out Awards must...

- Be an active participant in the current season of the ACE Mentor Program of Austin.

### **Application Package**

The Scholarship Committee prefers that all applications be typed and electronically submitted to the Scholarship Committee (see contact information at end of section). Printed scholarship applications will also be accepted at the beginning of the ACE meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

**Eligible candidates must submit all of the following materials together.**

- **A completed application form**
- **One 500-word essay from the four topics listed**

**The student is responsible for submitting the completed application package to the Scholarship Committee by 11:59pm Thursday, February 21st, 2019.**

### **Recommendations**

While letters of recommendation are not required for this application, students are encouraged to have their mentors fill out the Scholarship Evaluation form. One copy is attached at the end of this application (please copy as needed); this will also be provided to the mentors separately.

### **Selection Criteria**

The Scholarship Committee of the ACE Mentor Program of Austin will evaluate all freshmen and sophomore applications and consider each student's participation in the ACE Mentor Program and demonstrated interest in careers related to architecture, construction management, or construction related engineering. Topping Out Award recipients will be announced at the Final Presentations and Annual Exhibition on **March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019**.

Scholarship Committee contact information:

**Martha Gonzalez** at  
*marthagonzalezarch@gmail.com*

***GOOD LUCK!***

**Student Topping Out Award Application Checklist**  
***Austin 2019***

List must be completely checked off and submitted with forms

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- Student application completed – Sections A – C
- Student Essay – One essay or One video of four subjects attached – Section D
- Student Signature on application and date completed – Section E



# Topping Out Award Application

## Austin 2019

### B. Activities

List any school or community activities you have been involved with for at least one full year during high school.

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### C. Honors

List any honors, awards, achievements, or certifications you have received that you are proud of.

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### D. Essays & Video Submission

Choose one of the essay topics below and write a 500-word essay for each of them. The essays should be typed or printed on the attached Essay forms. Two forms are provided, and you may print or photocopy more if you need to.

1. *Why did you select the project prompt you selected? Explain how your design has advanced the typology for housing, a health clinic or a park. Describe how the design strategies you employed elevate the user experience and/or improve surrounding the urban fabric. Examples include using design to foster a sense of community for residents, promote health and wellness for patients, or encouraging environmental stewardship among park visitors.*
2. *How has your ACE experience provided insight into the role Architecture, Construction, & Engineering plays into shaping the future of our cities, and health of our planet. Illustrate an example of how the power of design has positively impacted a community. Describe the place making quality, environmental stewardship, social equity and economic viability required to create a public space of distinct beauty and identity.*
3. *Describe an obstacle or problem you and your team encountered during your project this year. How did it affect you and your team and what did you learn from the experience? What steps did you and your team take in order to identify a solution? How can this experience help you with future problems?*
4. *If you could give advice to a fellow student thinking about joining ACE, what would you tell them and why? How might the lessons learned during this year's ACE season contribute to your future academic or professional plans? What field are you currently leaning towards and what do you hope to accomplish in it?*

Video Submission Option: Create a 3-5 minute video for any of the essay prompts as a replacement of one of the required essays.

- The maximum length of video presentations is 5 minutes.
- Videos may be formatted in MPEG, AVI, WMV, or QuickTime (MOV) with a maximum resolution of 1280x720.
- Videos must be in the final, edited version
- Even though disclosure has been made, videos should not promote the use of any commercial product.
- Please ensure that you have permission to use any image or music presented as part of the video. This includes a license for copyrighted material and release forms from any person recognizable in the video.
- Name your video file: "**Last name\_First name\_ACE19.avi**" and upload to dropbox below:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/request/DakFStz8ywg9xO3GpDGK>

*\*All videos become the property of the ACE mentor program of Austin and may be used in future promotions, events or marketing materials*

*\*On **Thursday February 14<sup>th</sup> 2019** ACE Mentors will set up a filming opportunity for students who wish to submit a video essay application. Students will sign up for 15 minute time slots if they would like a mentor to record them, and must have prepared all content ahead of time. We will provide the equipment required for a quality video. Sign up sheet will be available February 7<sup>th</sup> 2019 to reserve your time slot.*

## **Topping Out Award Application**

### ***Austin 2019***

#### **E. Certification**

I certify that the information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of any information will cause disqualification from the scholarship and awards program. Acceptance of the topping out award constitutes permission to use the recipient's name and/or likeness for public relations purposes.

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*Signature*

*Date*

***Application Deadline is 2/21/2019 by 11:59 PM to Scholarship Committee***  
***Any Questions? Contact Scholarship Chair, Martha, at [marthagonzalezarch@gmail.com](mailto:marthagonzalezarch@gmail.com)***

**Topping Out Award Essay # 1.**  
***Austin 2019***

*Chosen Prompt: #* \_\_\_\_\_