



Mentor Program

Architecture, Construction
and Engineering

Design Your Future

with the ACE Mentor Program

career directions for students in
architecture, construction and engineering





The ACE Mentor Program at a glance

Imagine designing a state-of-the-art high school, planning the construction of a new football stadium, transforming the designs for a concert hall into a real building—while you're still in high school!

In your dreams? Not anymore.

Thanks to the ACE Mentor Program of America (ACE), thousands of high school students around the country are designing real-life projects under the direction of some of the nation's top engineering and design professionals.

ACE is an after-school program that gives you a hands-on introduction to architecture, construction management and engineering—careers you may consider if you're interested in designing and/or building just about everything around you, from schools, stadiums and concert halls to bridges, tunnels, shopping malls, parks and more.

The program matches you with ACE professionals, or mentors, who volunteer their time and energy. They show you where and how they work, the skills they use and some of their projects under construction. They also help you design an actual project.

When you join ACE, you may discover the career that was meant for you.



How it works

You're assigned to a team of 20-30 students. Mentors from participating companies adopt your team for the school year, meeting with you about 15 times a year for two hours, after school. They show you how designers and builders think and work. They take you on behind-the-scenes office tours and field trips to construction sites. And then there's the design project.

The design project: your ultimate challenge

Under your mentors' guidance, your team develops an actual engineering or architectural design project. You learn and apply important skills such as problem solving and drawing to design a real-life school, bridge, park—whatever your team agrees on. Then, in the final big event of the season, you and your team present your project to your teachers, parents and fellow students.



The benefits

Career guidance: Your exposure to many disciplines and specialties associated with engineering, architecture and construction management helps you decide which one—if any—is right for you. Your mentors have already been there and done that, and they can help you.

Job opportunities: Meeting in actual companies opens up opportunities for summer jobs, internships...and beyond. Your mentors can help you apply for a position.

Transition to the workplace: Becoming familiar with your mentors' working environment prepares you for working in an architecture, construction or engineering office.

Scholarships: Participation in the program is a key component for you to be eligible for a partial college scholarship through the ACE Scholarship Program, if you pursue an ACE career.

Better Skills: The program helps you develop a variety of skills, such as drawing, writing, presentation and problem solving.



The cost

There is no cost to students for participating in the program—it just requires some time—time learning how your mentors think and what they do, time working with your team on your project, time preparing for your future.



ACE Graduate John David Martinez with Cesar Pelli, FAIA at the second annual ACE Mentor Program of America Recognition Dinner, October 2006, Washington, DC

My time in ACE was invaluable. After speaking with architects and engineers, I was able to understand these professions and decide on my career goals. With a group of peers I was able to get a feel of what a major construction project is like. Our team formulated a goal, and we accomplished it together.

Edward Cheung, Brooklyn Technical High School,
ACE of New York City

Being part of ACE encouraged me to continue pursuing architecture as a course of study. The internship at an architectural firm this past summer allowed me to further observe the profession of architecture. I found ACE very enjoyable and was impressed at how many professionals are devoted to mentoring high school students.

Christine Kim, Upper Dublin High School,
ACE of Eastern Pennsylvania

The ACE program has taught me new skills that will help me in college. Because of ACE, I want to mentor when I graduate from college and excite others about the construction industry.

Angel Ruacho, Dorsey High School,
ACE of Greater Los Angeles

I am very grateful to have found the ACE Mentor Program. It has allowed me to express myself creatively and to explore the careers I am interested in.

Bridget Moran, Presentation High School,
ACE of San Francisco Bay

Ace gave me a chance.

Xiao Weng, Syracuse University, NY



Have you ever asked yourself

What's the difference between an architect and an engineer, or an interior designer and an architect?

Do I need good math skills to be an engineer?

How much does a construction manager make?

How is an underwater tunnel built?

**The ACE Mentor Program has the answers—
and much more.**



Architecture, Construction
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For more information, visit our
website: www.acementor.org

Types of careers you can explore

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

Interior Design

Planning

Civil Engineering

Structural Engineering

Geotechnical Engineering

Electrical Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Construction Management

Welding

Masonry

Carpentry