ACE is an incredible program that strengthens connections among professionals, empowers new students to take on amazing challenges, and promotes collaboration within our diverse fields.

- Landscape architect mentor, Denver, CO

ACE ADVANCES ARCHITECTURE WORKFORCE

BY ATTRACTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, INTERIOR DESIGNERS, AND URBAN PLANNERs, ACE PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN ADDRESSING THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY’S WORKFORCE NEEDS.

ACE has ignited my passion for architecture. Thanks to ACE, I have developed an appreciation of how architects work. The help I have received from my mentors is irreplaceable.

- Student, Raleigh, NC

THE ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

ACE’s 70 affiliates operate in 37 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Approximately 3,600 mentors annually engage 9,000 students from 1,000 schools in a free, 15-session after-school program. Two-thirds of students are from minority and underserved populations. More than one-third are female. Since its start in 1994, ACE has awarded $15M+ in scholarships.

www.acementor.org

DATA SOURCES

This report’s data are drawn from three large-scale surveys (2017) of students, alumni (class of 2012-16) and mentors. The surveys’ margins of error range from 1.5% to 2.2%. The statistic about national freshmen studying architecture is from Higher Education Research Institute, UCLA, 2016 CIRP Freshman Survey.
Motivates students to pursue design-related careers.

96% seniors interested in architecture report ace strengthened their commitment to this career or persuaded them to pursue it.

26% of all ace high school seniors enter college planning to major in architecture, landscape architecture, interior design, or urban planning.

Increases diversity.

53% women, 58% minority.

Recent ace alumni (2012-2016) most from under-represented groups majoring/working in a design-related field.

In ace high school, 44% planning an architecture major.

53% nationwide, 17% ace.

Teaches valuable skills.

% students strongly/moderately agreeing:
- Computer-aided design: 65%
- Model-making (actual or virtual): 73%
- Sustainable design and construction: 78%
- Knowledge of designing building or structure: 94%

Leads to valuable real world experience of what it's like to be an architect and work alongside people in other professions. Being in ace also gave me valuable pieces for my portfolio.

- 2016 ace alumni, cornell university

Continues to benefit ace program alumni.

88% alumni agree ace gave them:
- Edge over their college peers
- Professional network useful for career advancement

22% recent alumni (2012-2016) pursue college majors or hold professional positions in architecture, landscape architecture, interior design, or urban planning.

Impacts mentors professionally/personally.

45% registered architects.

34% of ace mentors are architects, landscape architects, interior designers, urban planners.

- Leadership abilities strengthened: 49%
- Ability to explain technical concepts improved: 56%
- Satisfaction recruiting next a-e-c generation: 63%
- Professional network extended: 73%
- Pleasure sharing my passion for the industry: 75%

Mentor benefits.

Workforce skills.

- Graphic communication ability improved: 76%
- Sense of creativity strengthened: 79%
- Oral communication ability improved: 80%
- Teamwork ability improved: 86%