

ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

ACE Mentor Program of Oregon

SUPPORTING STUDENTS' CAREER ASPIRATIONS IN
ARCHITECTURE, CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING

2020-2021 PROGRAM YEAR

PORTLAND, OREGON

 @ACEMENTOROREGON

WHAT IS ACE?

The **ACE Mentor Program** is a nationally 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 in 2006, and first awarded college scholarships in 2007. This Portland-based chapter has grown significantly and now relies on about 100 volunteer mentors to serve about 150 students a year from more than 40 high schools across the metropolitan area.

“It’s important for students to see what the job itself looks like. The ACE professions aren’t very well understood outside of our industry, and exposure to our work environments and the projects themselves can help **ignite excitement in students** in areas that they may not have had an interest before.”

— ACE Mentor



WHAT DO STUDENTS DO?

ACE gives students the chance to connect directly with Portland-area professionals in ACE fields. During 13 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 ACE career fields and practice skills such as communication, networking and teamwork.
- “Pitch” their projects to educators, family and ACE professionals at the program finale.

*Team meetings will be held virtually during the 2021 program year as needed, in alignment with current public health guidelines for limiting coronavirus transmission.



Students at ACE Summer Camp
University of Colorado, Denver, 2019

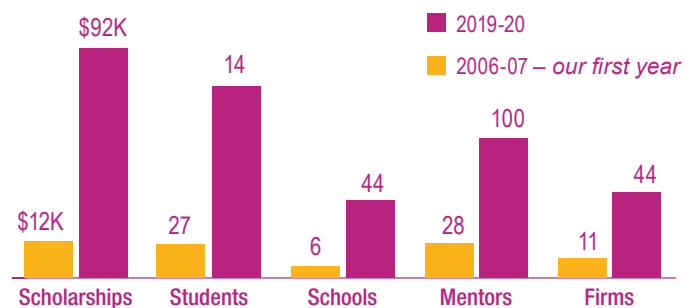
WHO MAKES ACE SPECIAL?

Mentors: More than 40 Portland-area firms provide volunteer mentors for students. These mentors serve as **role models**, trusted friends and career advisors. Last year, 100 Oregon mentors worked closely with 146 students from 44 high schools.

Students: ACE welcomes students from **all backgrounds**. Last year, 40% of students identified as female and nearly 40% were BIPOC students. ACE’s student retention rate was more than 90%.

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

ACE’S GROWTH



40% female students \$92,000 in scholarships in 2020

38% BIPOC students \$715,000 in scholarships since 2007

93% OF ACE OREGON’S COLLEGE-BOUND SENIORS PLAN TO MAJOR IN



ACE INSPIRES STUDENTS TO PURSUE CAREERS IN DESIGN-AND-BUILD FIELDS.

“ I met some incredible like-minded students... and some even more amazing mentors. ACE has given me **the boost I needed** going into college and reassured my choice to be an engineer.”

“ Learning how the fields work together and how intertwined they are was **eye opening.**”

“ Thanks to this program, I’ve been able to narrow my goals for a degree and a career... **I discovered my true calling** and desire to become an engineer or construction manager.”

“ It has ultimately helped me with **self-discovery** and provided the **push I did not know I needed** to actively tackle my career goals without fear.”

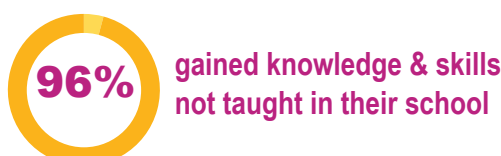
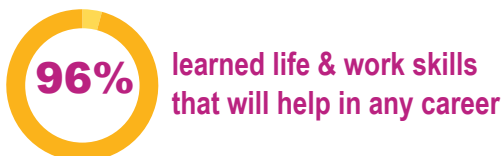
— 2020 ACE students

HOW DOES ACE MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Scholarships: The Oregon chapter of ACE has awarded \$715,000 in college scholarships since 2007 to promising students who plan to major in an ACE-related field. In 2020, ACE Oregon awarded \$92,000 to 15 seniors.

Workforce: ACE alumni are graduating from college and using their ACE connections to join the workforce as new employees. In fact, 92% of 2020 Oregon ACE students said they feel more motivated to go to college or enter a skilled trades training program. 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 students:



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Humanus Labs	TCM Corp
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	TriMet
	Turner & Townsend
	Turner Construction
	ZGF Architects

PARTICIPATING HIGH SCHOOLS

Aloha	Madison
Arts & Communication Magnet Academy	Milwaukie Academy of the Arts
Baker Charter School	Molalla
Beaverton	Mountainside High School
Benson Polytechnic	New Urban
Central Catholic	Parkrose
Clackamas	PPC Gateway to College Program
Clackamas Middle College	Rex Putnam
Cleveland	Reynolds
Community Transitions Program of Beaverton	Roosevelt
David Douglas	Sam Barlow High School
Franklin	School of Science and Technology
Gladstone	Sherwood
Grant	Southridge
Health & Science School	St. Mary's Academy
Homelife Academy	Stevenson
International School of Beaverton	Sunset
Jefferson	Tigard
Jesuit High School	Tualatin
Lake Oswego	West Linn
Lakeridge	Westview
Lincoln	Wilson

*2019-20

THANK YOU TO OUR ACE PARTNERS



ANDERSEN CONSTRUCTION
FOUNDATION



Howard S. Wright
a Balfour Beatty company

SKANSKA



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Andersen Construction	Dull Olson Weekes - IBI Group Architects	Interior Office Solutions	Neudorfer Engineers	Swinerton
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