



**ACE MENTOR PROGRAM**  
Architecture, Construction, and Engineering

Imagine designing a state-of-the-art stadium, planning the construction of a suspension bridge, or transforming the vision for an urban center into a reality *while you're still in high school.*

Career directions for students in architecture, construction, and engineering.

# Design Your Future With the ACE Mentor Program

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, engineering and other construction 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 is meant for you.

“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.”

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

## The ACE Mentor Program at a Glance

### How it Works

You're assigned to a team with other students. Mentors from participating companies will work with your team during the school year, meeting with you after school. You will learn how designers and builders think and work. Your mentors will also 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 team, under your mentor's guidance, will develop 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 mentors, teachers, parents and fellow students.

### The Benefits

**Career guidance:** Your exposure to many disciplines and specialties associated with the construction industry helps you decide which one—if any—is right for you.

## Types of careers you can explore

Architecture

Landscape  
Architecture

Interior Design

Civil Engineering

Planning

Structural  
Engineering

Geotechnical  
Engineering

Electrical  
Engineering

Mechanical  
Engineering

Construction  
Management

Welding

Masonry

Carpentry

HVAC

Plumbing

And many others!

**Job opportunities:** Meeting at a mentor's place of business opens up opportunities for summer jobs, internships...and more.

**Transition to the workplace:** Becoming familiar with your mentors' workplace prepares you for working in a professional work environment.

### No Cost

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

“ 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*

**Scholarships:** Participation in the program and pursuit of an ACE career are required for eligibility for a partial college scholarship through the ACE Scholarship Program funded at the local level.

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



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

**Have you ever asked yourself:**

**What's the difference between an architect and an engineer, or a construction manager and a structural engineer?**

**Do I need good math skills to be an engineer?**

**How much does a person in the construction industry make?**

**How is an underwater tunnel built? A bridge? Skyscraper?**

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

“ 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*

[www.acementor.org](http://www.acementor.org)