



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

ARCHITECTURE • CONSTRUCTION • ENGINEERING

Engage Excite Enlighten

CAREER DIRECTIONS FOR STUDENTS IN ARCHITECTURE, CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING



OUR MISSION

To **ENGAGE**, **EXCITE** and **ENLIGHTEN** high school students to pursue careers in architecture, engineering and construction through mentoring and to support their continued advancement in the industry.





ACE is your chance to SHARE YOUR STORY while helping students learn about different construction industry careers. It's also a great way to connect with other professionals who share your passions.



ABOUT US

ACE is a FREE after-school program open to any high school student with the curiosity and drive to learn about the various career paths in the design & construction industry.





AN EDUCATION THAT GOES WELL BEYOND TEXTBOOKS

By working with real professionals in real work situations, ACE students receive an invaluable hands-on education — they learn to understand the day-to-day workings of our industry by living it, experiencing it, NOT reading about it.



ARCHITECTURE

Architects, Landscape Architects,
Interior Designers, Urban Planners

ENGINEERING

Civil, Electrical, Environmental
Mechanical, and Structural
Engineers

CONSTRUCTION

Construction Managers,
Contractors, Skilled Crafts
Professionals

ALLIED PROFESSIONS

Lawyers, marketing professionals,
university faculty, and others

A photograph of two men in a studio setting, leaning over a large table covered with architectural blueprints and numerous small yellow sticky notes. The man on the left is wearing a dark jacket with white stripes on the sleeves and glasses. The man on the right is wearing a white polo shirt with 'UMC' on it and glasses. They appear to be in a collaborative discussion. In the background, there are computer monitors and a backpack on a bench.

**ACE relies on
a network of
volunteer
mentors.**

A group of construction workers wearing hard hats and safety vests are gathered in an office or meeting room. They appear to be in a discussion or meeting. The image has a blue tint. The text is overlaid on the bottom half of the image.

ACE Mentors annually donate more than \$17 million worth of volunteer services.



ACE Mentors are passionate about what they do and often make significant contributions to their communities as role models, trusted friends and career advisors.

WHAT MENTORS DO

You will join a team of other industry professionals leading a group of students. ACE isn't about merely **describing** specific professions, it's about **immersing** students in the profession by engaging them in actual building projects.



OUR MEETINGS



- **5-6 PROFESSIONALS** meet with a group of approx. **10-15 STUDENTS**.
- **15 MEETINGS, 2-HOUR** sessions, weekly or bi-weekly schedule.
- **Meetings occur in schools, mentor offices, or other locations.**
- **Through hands-on activities, student teams first learn basic skills and knowledge. They apply this to developing realistic projects in second half of program.**

WHAT YOU WILL DO



PRESENTATION

Brief mentor presentations about topic of session and/or introduction to a particular ACE career path.



ACTIVITY

Hands-on activities and/or working with students on mock design project.



WRAP-UP

Wrap-up – review of session’s accomplishments, goals for next session.



A lot of students, myself included, had little notion of what it takes to create a building. ACE opened my eyes to different careers and helped me make the right choice...





EXPOSURE

ACE offers students a unique experience and opportunity to visit various places associated with the design and construction industry!

- CONSTRUCTION SITES
- MENTOR FIRMS OFFICES
- UNIVERSITY VISITS
- LABOR TRADE INSTITUTES
- NATIONAL COMPETITIONS
- AND MORE!



ENGAGEMENT

At the end of the program year, teams present their projects to an audience of mentors, parents, students and others.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Part of ACE's mission is to support students' continued advancement into our industry.

ACE affiliates offer scholarships to students planning to pursue an A/E/C related degree in college or enter a skilled trades program.

ACE has awarded over \$15+ million in scholarships since 1995.



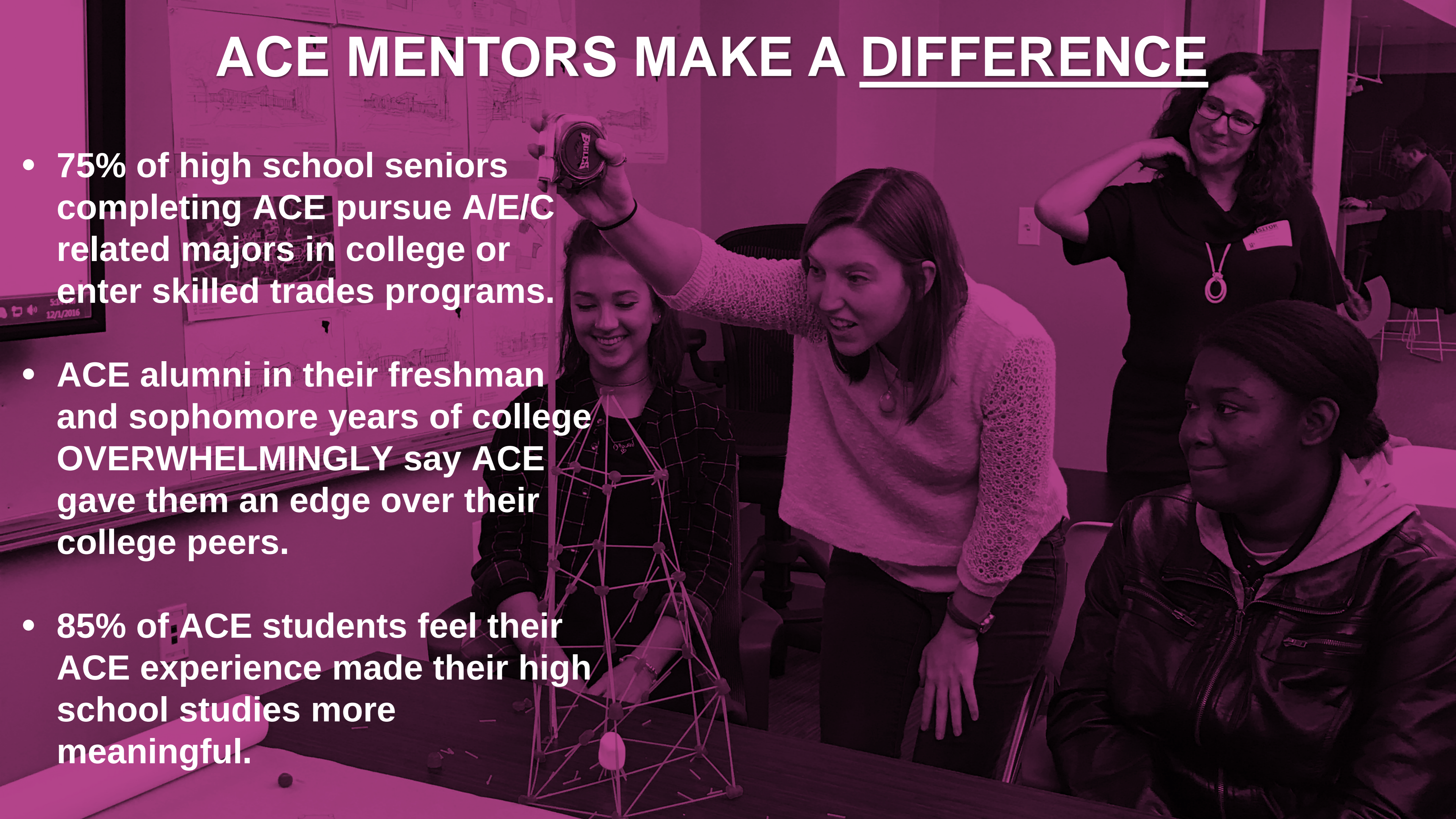
WHY JOIN ACE?

- **One of America's top economic engines, the integrated design and construction industry faces a serious workforce shortage.**
- **The retirement of baby boomers is depleting the ranks of the 7 million people employed in the A/E/C industry.**
- **ACE mentors have inspired thousands of young people to consider and pursue industry careers.**



ACE MENTORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- 75% of high school seniors completing ACE pursue A/E/C related majors in college or enter skilled trades programs.
- ACE alumni in their freshman and sophomore years of college **OVERWHELMINGLY** say ACE gave them an edge over their college peers.
- 85% of ACE students feel their ACE experience made their high school studies more meaningful.



MENTOR QUALITIES

- **Passion for the A/E/C industry.**
- **Knowledge of their professional field.**
- **Ability to establish a rapport with others.**
- **Commitment to ACE mission.**



PERSONAL BENEFITS

01

GRATIFICATION

The gratification that comes with sharing knowledge and wisdom with students.

02

NETWORKING

A variety of networking opportunities with other professionals in the local design and construction community.

03

BETTER SKILLS

The program helps you develop a variety of skills, such as leadership, teamwork, and communicating technical concepts to lay audience.

04

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The program may help satisfy requirements associated with professional licensure.

VOLUNTEER ROLES



TEAM LEADER

Team Leaders manage the team and attend every meeting.




MENTOR

Mentors assist with hands-on activities and talk about their careers. They are encouraged to attend every meeting.



GUEST SPEAKER

Guest speakers occasionally give short talks about special topics and join student activities.



“The chance for employees to mentor young people, give back, and enhance their own leadership skills is a great benefit to companies.”

**Thomas F. Gilbane, Jr.
Chairman, ACE National Board
Chairman, Gilbane Building Company**

FIRM COMMITMENT

- **Empower staff to serve as ACE mentors**
- **Possibly provide space for meetings, if teams do not meet at schools or other organizations**
- **Provide snacks if a teams meets at firm office**
- **Facilitate ACE teams access to job sites, if requested**



FIRM BENEFITS

01

EXPOSURE

Enhancement of your company image, within the industry and also the community.

02

NETWORKING

Networking opportunities, for both mentors and principals.

03

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Connections to talented and motivated part-time help and to potential future employees.

04

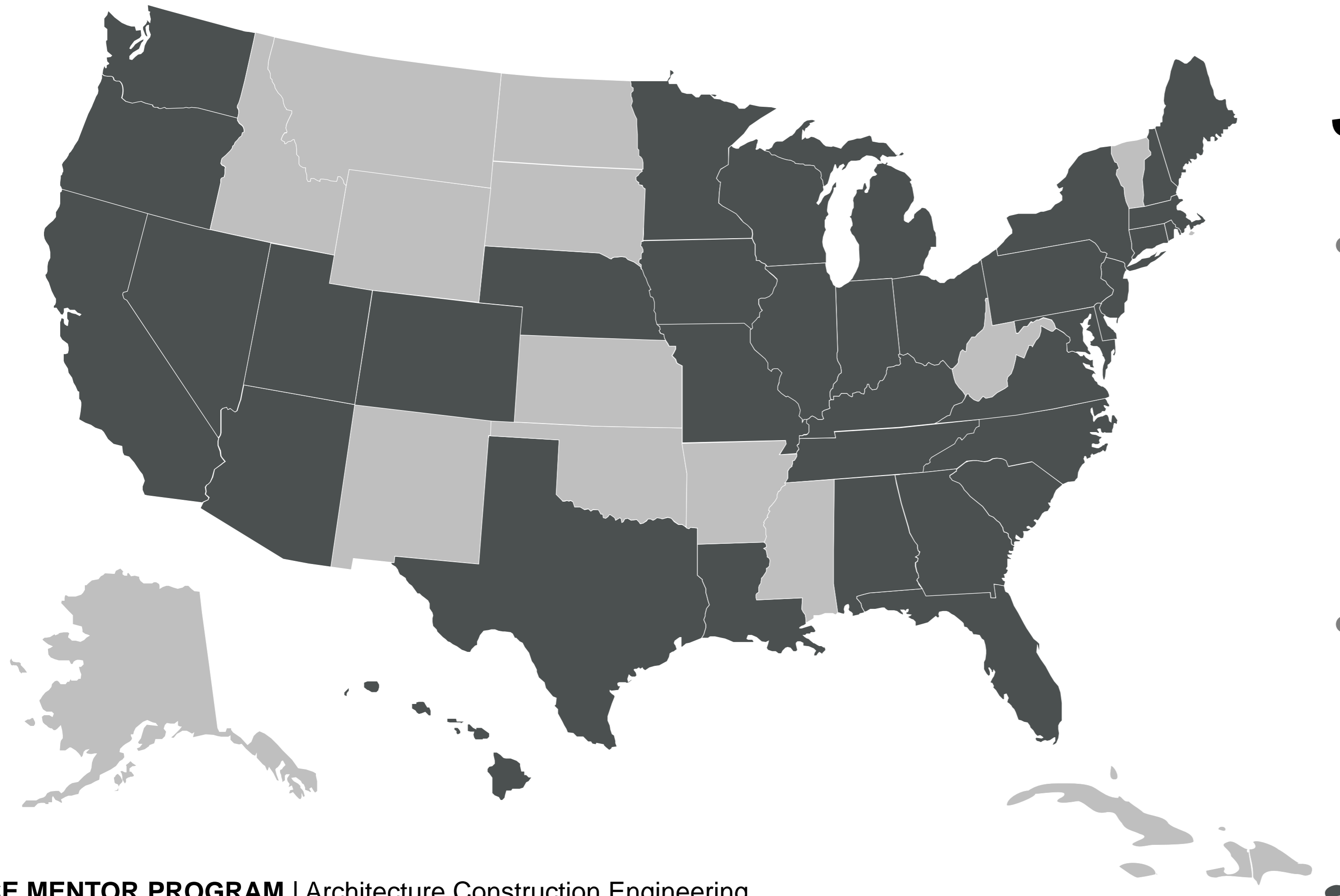
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Growth of young professionals' leadership and communications skills.



ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

of AMERICA



JOIN OUR NETWORK.

- ACE's 70 affiliates operate in 37 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Most affiliates are based in urban communities.
- Over 9,000 students and about 3,500 mentors each year



HOW TO REGISTER

01

LOG ONTO

www.acementor.org

02

CLICK 'MENTORS/
VOLUNTEERS' TAB
AT THE TOP OF
THE PAGE

03

CLICK
'REGISTRATION'

04

COMPLETE
REGISTRATION,
MENTOR
TRAINING &
MANDATORY
BACKGROUND
CHECK

05

GET ASSIGNED TO
A TEAM BY
YOUR LOCAL
AFFILIATE
DIRECTOR



“I am thankful for the ACE program, for staying with me throughout my life journey over the past 10 years.”

David Kane,
Construction Manager
ACE Alum + Mentor