2025- 2026 ACE DC Mentor Program
Student Presentation/Mock Design RFP

ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE · CONSTRUCTION · ENGINEERING
WASHINGTON DC (ACE DC)

Overview

Each year, ACE DC student teams have the opportunity to create their own mock design project and to present their project in our local competition. In April 2026, each team will present its project to a panel of industry judges and compete for 1st, 2nd or 3rd place. After the competition, the judges will provide feedback on each team's presentation and work product. Student teams are not required to compete – many teams use this event as an opportunity to obtain feedback on their effort throughout the year! The event is intended to be a fun learning opportunity, and the judges are looking for creative and well thought out projects that are feasible and carefully designed.

Each team should select the project it wants to design from the design prompts below:

Design Prompts

1. Net Zero Data Center
2. Cultural Destination
3. Modular/tech-enabled build
4. Redesign your school to increase capacity by 25% *or* to improve wellness (e.g. increased windows, ventilation, access to plantings, etc.)
5. Redesign an existing national, state, or community park to improve accessibility

The first three prompts are in line with the 2026 Construction Industry Round Table ("CIRT") national competition. Visit www.cirt.org/competition for additional information on each of the first three prompts. (Note that, if one of the CIRT prompts is selected, the team *does not need* to provide the CIRT deliverables for ACE DC's student competition.) We encourage teams to consider submitting their projects at the national level!

Each team will prepare a PowerPoint presentation about its project. Teams may include any information and/or elements in their PowerPoint presentation, including team photos or videos. Physical models are permitted. The PowerPoint slides should include the following :

Requirements

1. Project overview
2. Introduction of team members
3. 3-5 project deliverables (identified below)
4. Project renderings (Sketch-up, BIM, hand-sketched)
5. Identification of the major trades involved in executing the project
6. Lessons learned (maximum of 3)

Presentations are to be approximately 10 minutes long, plus a few minutes for judges' questions. Presentations will be cut off after 15 minutes. Judges will consider a presentation's overall time in their evaluation.

Each student team member should be provided with an opportunity to present if they choose, and all student team members should be involved in the final work product.

ACE MENTOR PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE · CONSTRUCTION · ENGINEERING
WASHINGTON DC (ACE DC)

Deliverables	Each presentation **_must include_** at least three of the below deliverables, and may include up to five deliverables. Each presentation must include a visual depiction of the project. There is no limit on the number of slides included in the presentation (but remember the time deadline). • Site selection overview (where project will be built, aerial footage, site improvements needed, etc.) • Site analysis plan (hand sketched or digital) • Engineered site plan • Floor plan(s) • Elevation(s) • Section(s) • Perspective view(s) • Interior room layouts • Framing plan(s) • Logistics plan • Construction budget/cost estimate • Construction schedule • HVAC/plumbing/electrical plans • Proposed engineering systems • Landscape design • Sustainability or LEED considerations • Resiliency design elements • Community impact Judges encourage creativity, examples of critical thinking, and ingenuity. Judges want to see that students worked together as a team and had fun in the process!