



## Architecture-Construction-Engineering (A.C.E.) Academies

### Mission Statement

To provide opportunities for Wisconsin high school students to acquire academic and technical skills needed for entry into the construction-trade workforce and/or postsecondary education.

### Program Description

The A.C.E. Academy is a multi-year program that incorporates core academic subjects with construction-trade technical education classes, all taught by Academy teachers. The program format is flexible and portable, thereby allowing it to accommodate programs unique to particular high schools and be implemented statewide.

### Program Objectives

- To promote a partnership among the school, parents, and the construction industry.
- To prepare students for careers within the construction industry
- To integrate core curriculum courses with industry classes.
- To offer educational experiences with construction industry personnel through job shadowing, service learning opportunities, field trips, and guest speakers.
- To act as a link between secondary and post-secondary education.

### Program Benefits

- A small learning community eases transition from school to work.
- Students gain knowledge and experience with work-based learning, while school's better meet the needs of tactile learners.
- The educational experience will enhance academy students' marketability to both post-secondary institutions and to their career pathways.
- Potential for applying credits earned toward partnering two-year technical college.
- Increased potential for financial contributions to support and improve schools facilities and resources.

### How It Works

- 2 or 3 Year Program – Sophomore, Junior, Senior
- Students are exposed to an integrated curriculum with a career field focus.
  - Includes both Math and English curriculum taught with construction-related elements
- Average class size is approximately 12-30 students per class year
- Program incorporates job shadow and career days from local contractors and industry representatives
- Upon program completion, AGC provides a certificate of completion for each Academy student

### AGC's Role

- AGC of Wisconsin is the primary sponsor for the ACE/Construction Career Academies, however each Academy acts independently.
- AGC provides financial support, course materials (when necessary), curriculum guidance, and connections to local general and specialty contractors.
- AGC encourages its members to actively support local Academies through financial and material contributions, job shadow opportunities, and potential employment options.
- Academies also have access to AGC's heavy machinery simulators upon demand.

### Current ACE/Construction Career Academies

- Burlington High School
- Fond du Lac High School
- Kimberly High School
- La Crosse Central High School
- Marshfield High School
- Tomah High School
- Racine Unified School District (new)