



The ACE Academy would like to take this time to thank you for supporting the growth of the program. The new effort to improve the program started in 2014 by recognizing the need for contractor support financially and in the classroom.

With the fund raising that started in 2016 were able to help support the ACE Academy in the following efforts:

1. New state of the art 6000 sq. ft. structure to support hands on instruction. \$1,300,000.00 cost completed in January 2019
2. Grant from FDL Arae Foundation of \$100,000.00 - this allowed the purchase of \$140,000.00 worth of tools and equipment 2019.
3. New 40' x 32' garage to match the school which is a \$60,000 building to store equipment and tools. Built in classes 2020-2023
4. New concrete slab 46" x 35' poured over 7 semesters, valued at \$15,000.
5. New CNC Machine (\$42,000 value) in the Interiors Finishes Lab and Classroom purchased in 2024.
6. New exterior courtyard valued at \$20,000 which the class built in classes over 8 semesters and completed 2023.

Vern Widmer, Lead ACE Instructor, has done an outstanding job coordinating projects and classroom instruction with 26 companies on a regular basis over 17 weeks per semester. This is the only ACE program in the state of Wisconsin that has this extensive contractor involvement, and the results show with the improved number of students each year. The placement of students with partner companies has improved every year as a result of industry involvement.

We have also developed an Executive committee representing the Construction Industry comprised of 8 member partners. The Committee is excited by the future of the program and have listed Phase 2 program efforts below:

1. New instructor to handle 292 students (Desperately Needed)
2. New Garage 40'X 32' to match existing garage to store classroom mockup walls.
3. Training slab 10' x 10' for Steel erection.
4. Materials for the new CNC Machine (Wood, Counter tops, Cabinet sheets, etc.)
5. Energy training courtyard outside. This will cover Underground power, Overhead power, underground gas, solar with none of these power sources active.
6. Tools replacements and added tools.
7. Small forklift to help load and unload projects or materials.

ACE Academy Enrollment Overview:

2016-17: 44 Students

2017-18: 52 Students

2018-19: 75 Students

2019-20 : 135 Students (New Building)

2020-21: 152 Students

2022-23: 191 Students

2023-24: 225 Students

2024-25: 235 Students

2025-26: 291 Students Registered*

*Need a 2nd instructor to handle overload