As the voice of the consulting engineering industry, ACEC New York continually promotes the profession to a variety of audiences, including the architecture, engineering and construction community; the media, public and private sector clients; aspiring engineers; and the general public.

Engineering Excellence

Dubbed the “Academy Awards of the engineering profession,” ACEC New York honors innovation and distinction in both local and global projects through the Engineering Excellence Awards. The program gathers submissions from member firms each year, and these projects are judged rigorously by a panel of industry leaders on the basis of originality, sustainability, future impact, complexity, and successful fulfillment of the needs of the client. On average, over 100 projects are honored with awards each year. All projects are displayed and recognized at the Engineering Excellence Gala, held each spring at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City. Hundreds of engineering professionals, public and private clients, built-environment leaders and government personnel gather for this event. During that evening, the Empire Award, given to the top-rated diamond award-winning project designed and built entirely in New York State, is revealed.

Scholarship Fund

To promote the profession to the next generation, award outstanding engineering students and help New York retain promising young talent, ACEC New York administers a statewide scholarship program. Since the program’s inception in 2002, the council has awarded $578,000 collectively to 214 high-achieving engineering students attending New York State colleges and universities. ACEC New York also donates a $3,000 scholarship to the ACE Mentor program, which recognizes and assists current New York high school students pursuing engineering careers.

Public Relations and Social Media

ACEC New York has a comprehensive public relations plan to promote the profession to the engineering industry and the general public, including advertising in a number of industry and business publications. The association has a presence on all major social media channels, including Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn and uses these channels to promote not only programs and events but also news items relevant to the engineering community. The ACEC New York website offers a valuable platform to provide key information pertaining to the organization and the profession at large.
ACEC New York hosts many different meetings and conferences that provide opportunities for membership to share experiences, explore partnering opportunities, and network with industry and political leaders. Sponsorship is available for all meetings and conferences.

**Winter Conference**

The Winter Conference is the premier business event of the ACEC New York educational and networking calendar. Over 300 engineering professionals and exhibitors attend this conference each year. Government agencies present exclusive information on upcoming capital programs. Concurrent tracks for CFOs and Emerging Leaders are also offered. The Conference includes an Infrastructure Policy Networking Event, featuring select legislators and other key personnel.

**Fall Conference**

The ACEC New York Fall Conference gathers together engineering professionals from across New York State to hear the latest information affecting the consulting engineering industry. This event features various business education sessions and PDH opportunities, as well as the Annual Golf Outing. This is the first opportunity for committee chairs to meet in person with their committees and report on their plans for the year.

**“Doing Business With...”**

ACEC New York has developed a series of in-person seminars jointly with New York agencies and authorities to provide firms with best practices on doing business with them. Past programs include collaboration with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, New York City Department of Design and Construction, and the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation.

**Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting is held in the spring of each year in New York City and is the final membership meeting of the ACEC New York calendar. This event incorporates a business session and luncheon, featuring an industry-related speaker. The “Engineer of the Year” and the “New Principal of the Year” awards are presented during the luncheon, as well as inductions of new board members and graduation of the Leadership Institute class.
POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

With a long history of action and involvement, ACEC New York has developed a substantial presence in New York State, New York City and regional politics. Via direct lobbying, briefings, white papers, testimony before committees, media events and participation in government task forces, ACEC New York is an active force in shaping the business environment in which its members operate.

Issues and Agenda

ACEC New York develops a legislative agenda and meets with top legislative leaders throughout the state (as well as the federal government) each year to ensure that the immediate concerns of consulting engineers and the public’s well-being are represented before government leaders. Key issues include:

- Capital investment that meets NY’s growing infrastructure needs – for bridges, tunnels, energy, roads, transit, airports and water systems
- Jobs creation through mandate relief measures and pension cost reductions that will free up funds for public works projects and put thousands of New Yorkers back to work
- Extension of Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) requirements to public authorities and public benefit corporations for higher quality design
- Implementation of alternative project delivery methods – Design-build and Public Private Partnerships—to accelerate infrastructure projects, decrease costs and leverage private equity
- Cost-effective delivery of engineering services through greater use of private design firms
- Indemnification that ensures engineers are responsible for only the work they perform

PACs

ACEC New York supports three Political Action Committees (PACs) at the state, city and national levels, with a common goal: to promote the election of responsible and qualified candidates for public office—regardless of party affiliation—who understand and appreciate the goals, objectives and values of the consulting engineering community. Our funds aid the campaigns of candidates who support robust infrastructure and development policies, design excellence and sustainability, and help to counterbalance the influence of opposing lobbying groups.
ACEC New York keeps members in the forefront on regulatory issues, emerging trends and business acumen – knowledge that is imperative not only to the success of the industry, but also to the future wellbeing of New York State.

**Live Professional Development**

ACEC New York offers many in-person meetings that are technical in nature and qualify for professional development hours. Topics are varied and cover all engineering disciplines. These sessions take place during our major statewide events, as well as many within the local regions of ACEC New York.

**Professional Development Webinars and Self-Study**

ACEC New York aims to make the process of maintaining their professional licenses as easy as possible. Throughout each year, we offer a monthly PDH webinar over lunch. We maintain an entire database of past webinars that members can purchase for training at their own convenience. Additionally, ACEC New York has partnered with affiliate member RedVector, specializing in online training, opening a vast library of self-study courses that members can purchase at a discount and complete at their own computer at their own convenience.

**Leadership Institute**

ACEC New York has partnered with affiliate member The Jennings Group to offer the Leadership Institute, a 9-session program designed to develop the future leaders of the industry. The Institute is offered in New York City, with biennial offerings in an upstate location.
Regions

ACEC New York is divided into 8 regions across the state: Metropolitan, Long Island, Mid-Hudson, Eastern, Southern Tier, Central, Rochester, and Western. Each region has their own board of directors, and holds their own programs. The regions also maintain a distinctive regional focus on issues of particular interest to their local membership.

Committees

Our statewide and regional committees are the core of the organization, through which much of the work is accomplished—work that affects all aspects of the industry, from legislative advocacy to environmental issues. Joining a committee represents a unique opportunity for members to get involved—to make an impact on the professional and business climate; to network; to share information and best practices; and to gain visibility among peers, agencies, clients and other professional organizations with similar interests.
By joining ACEC New York, firms are automatically granted membership in the American Council of Engineering Companies’ national organization (ACEC), based in Washington, D.C. Representing 51 state and regional engineering associations, ACEC brings an additional level of benefits to members.

The National Council:

• Promotes the business interests of engineering companies to Congress, federal agencies and international organizations

• Manages the largest federal PAC in the A/E industry to help leaders who support ACEC’s legislative agenda

• Obtains preferred rates for members on a range of business services, including life and health insurance, business and professional liability insurance and 401(k) retirement program

• Offers a two-year training program for veteran and rising executives, and a wide array of meetings, continuing education programs and seminars

• Provides timely information for a variety of publications, press releases and media briefings and a comprehensive website

For more information on ACEC National, visit their website at acec.org.