

ACEC Washington

- **ACEC Washington is the primary advocate for the protection and promotion of your business interests**
- **ACEC Washington is your primary resource on business practices**
- **ACEC Washington is the voice of the consulting engineering industry in Washington State**
- **ACEC Washington works to enhance appreciation of the engineering profession**

What does it cost?

Membership in ACEC Washington is an investment in your business and profession. It offers tremendous opportunities and rewards.

Dues are calculated based on the number of employees in your firm, on a sliding scale. For a quote on your investment in ACEC Washington, call ACEC Washington or visit online at acec-wa.org.

How can my firm join?

Call or write for an application:
ACEC Washington
700 - 112th Avenue NE
Suite 207
Bellevue, WA 98004
Phone: 425.453.6655

Apply online at: acec-wa.org/membership

Washington's consulting engineering firms are among the best in the world, designing some of the most technologically advanced infrastructure. Just as they strive to continually update and improve their engineering proficiency, these entrepreneurs must also cultivate their business practices skills to compete in domestic and international marketplaces.

The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Washington provides the executives of private engineering firms with the tools and educational opportunities to be better business owners and managers. ACEC Washington also presents a strong, cohesive voice for the profession in national legislative and policy debates to help ensure that firms can compete fairly in an increasingly aggressive world market. With nearly 50 years of experience in our state, ACEC Washington has established itself as the leading organization of consultant engineers.

ACEC's goals are to help its members:

- Achieve higher professional and business standards for consulting engineers;
- Ensure that ethical standards are maintained;
- Act as an information clearinghouse for the profession;
- Advise on enactment of national, state and local legislation affecting members' interests;
- Support and assist the advancement of the science and practice of engineering

ACEC Washington is comprised of 200 independent engineering firms engaged in the private practice of consulting engineering. These firms employ more than 6,500 engineers, architects, land surveyors, scientists, technicians, and other professionals who design over \$2 billion of private and public works annually.

ACEC's member firms offer engineering expertise in a wide range of disciplines, including civil, structural, geotechnical, mechanical, electrical, environmental, industrial, metallurgical, chemical, acoustical, mining and agricultural. The firms range in size from a single registered professional engineer to corporations employing thousands of professionals, and two out of three firms employ fewer than 25 people each.

ACEC Washington



Working for You!

Small Firms Council

SMALL FIRMS COUNCIL

**Do you feel small and isolated?
Frustrated by missed opportunities?
Just started a firm and overwhelmed
by issues? Looking for ideas on doing
business better?**

The ACEC Washington Small Firm Council (SFC) can help you, the small firm owner, stay connected and on top of your business. SFC is the business education and advocacy voice for ACEC Washington's small member firms. SFC's goal is to help prepare small firms for growth and the future.

SFC objectives to achieve this goal include:

- Promote opportunities to meet with public agencies, private clients, and member firms.
- Raise awareness of client issues as they affect small firms.
- Promote understanding and resolution of prime and subconsultant contracting relationships and challenges.
- Provide business education opportunities tailored for small firms.
- Track and influence legislative initiatives that affect small firms.
- Utilize resources available from ACEC National for small firms.
- Provide a forum for sharing solutions to issues unique to small firms.
- Develop a network of firm contacts and other resources that can provide information and lessons learned on small business topics.

What if I want to talk to more than firms like mine?

SFC is not just about small firms! SFC will provide ACEC's large firm members opportunities to participate in education and teaming programs to assist you in meeting your project goals.

How can SFC help me stay connected?

Quarterly meetings and an email group encourages participants to openly discuss issues facing small firms today. In addition, SFC provides its members with educational programs that help you meet and prepare to work with public agencies, private clients, and larger firms. ACEC Washington sponsors a special webpage for SFC member firms with links and information of interest, as well as meeting and program announcements.

What can I learn?

What do you, as a small business owner, want to know? SFC is ready to address any business topic raised by its members. Take advantage of the education programs, networking opportunities, roundtable discussions, and information exchanges. Tap the diverse knowledge and experience the members of SFC offer. Learn about strategic planning, human resource, information technology, finances, ownership transition planning, and other business topics from the unique perspective of the small firm.

What does membership in SFC cost? Who can join?

SFC membership is complimentary for ACEC Washington members. You must be a member of ACEC to join SFC. If special programs have speaker and room fees or similar costs that are not underwritten by ACEC Washington, those costs are shared by attendees.



With all of the exciting growth taking place in our community, it's more important than ever to stay connected with other professionals working in design and construction. The ACEC and SFC provides an excellent forum for keeping abreast of new opportunities, developing and strengthening firm relationships, and taking advantage of training opportunities. The Council is specifically designed to help small firms address unique challenges and find solutions to common issues without having to reinvent the wheel. That helps keep costs down and improves productivity. As a small business we need and appreciate that advantage.

Diane Adams
EnviroIssues



ACEC Washington and the Small Firms Council are critical resources that help me the most in operating my small business profitably. The unique education and networking opportunities they offer enable me to build relationships with a wide range of firms, clients, and agencies. As a small firm owner, I don't have time to track important legislation; they do it for me. Joining ACEC and participating in the SFC are wise choices for the future of my firm.

Kathleen Robertson, PE, LEG (WA)/CEG(OR)
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