



ACEC of Maine



For More Information on Membership:
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ACEC of Maine is a Member Organization of the National American Council of Engineering Companies, which is headquartered in Washington, DC. ACEC is a national federation of 52 state and regional organizations protecting and promoting the business of Engineering. Our Maine membership is made up of consulting engineering firms and allies, and we exist to assist owners, principals, and managers of member firms to develop successful businesses. We currently serve 51 Maine engineering firms accounting for more than 1,500 engineers.

As a statewide organization, we are dedicated to enhancing the consulting engineering profession, protecting the general public, and promoting the use of the private sector in the growth and development of our state. We accomplish this through dedicated volunteers who serve on our Board of Directors and various Committees. Some of the important work we do:

- MaineDEP – Collaborates with Commissioner and staff to stay current on changes to rules and law that could impact business and public safety.
- Engineering Excellence Awards (EEAs) – ACEC of Maine’s mission is to highlight and promote important projects within our state. The EEAs are a great way to accomplish this.
- Continuing Education – Our mission is to continue to assist current and future leaders and engineers with better understanding the business of our industry.
- ...and more!

We would love to discuss the benefits and the importance of membership for all firms operating in the Maine engineering community with you. As engineers, we design and build systems that support our communities and economies. Join now and help us protect our industry as we continue to reshape the world.

- Government Affairs – meets routinely during State legislative sessions to stay up to speed on legislation impacting the profession. Monitors and testifies when it will protect the business of our Members.
- MaineDOT Working Group – collaborates with the MaineDOT and staff on important technical and policy issues impacting infrastructure projects in Maine.



2023 - 2024 Year-End Review

In March of 2023 ACEC of Maine received an ACEC Membership Organization (MO) Strengthening Program award of \$10,000. This grant was to assist in the cost of ACEC of Maine's Executive Director, Tanya Griffeth, to attend the ACEC Annual Convention in Washington D.C., the ACEC Fall Conference in Texas, and the NAECE (National Association of Engineering Council Executives) winter meeting in California. With the experiences and support garnered at these events, the Maine Chapter of ACEC is more recognized and involved on the national scale than ever before, and the lessons

learned have helped make ACEC of Maine a stronger association.

On March 9, 2023, Amanda Rector, Maine State Economist, spoke at our Annual Meeting in Freeport. We onboarded two new State Directors, Lauren (Meek) Flemming, P.E. from Stantec, and Paul Godfrey, P.E. from HNTB.

We held our first-ever ACEC of Maine Golf Tournament in September at Toddy Brook golf course in North Yarmouth, with 18 teams in attendance. Our 2nd Annual golf tournament will be held at Martindale Country Club in Auburn on September 23, 2024.



Many of the AECC of Maine EEA winners submitted their project to ACEC National for recognition like the Maine Turnpike's Portland Area Widening & Safety Improvements shown above, courtesy HNTB.

We worked with Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) to increase our wage cap from \$55 per hour to \$85 per hour in October of 2023 so that member firms could afford to work on MaineDOT projects and provide the level of service for which the engineering community of Maine is known. We

are also working with the MaineDOT to eliminate the construction support service's maximum "Fair and Reasonable" direct labor rates, had a collaborative meeting with MaineDOT leadership and in the following months we will continue this important conversation.



2023 was a Year of Accomplishments for ACEC of Maine.

In November, we hosted our ACEC of Maine Fall Forum at the University of Maine, where attendees toured the Ferland Engineering Education and Design Center and heard from the new Dean of the Maine College of Engineering and Computing, Giovanna Guidoboni. We awarded eight (8) Engineering Excellence Awards to ACEC of Maine member firms, the most we have had in years. Many of the winners submitted their projects to ACEC National for recognition.

Throughout the year, we hosted a series of lunch and learns, giving folks an opportunity to earn PDH's and hear from a variety of speakers on topics such as Strategies for Negotiating Better Client Agreements, Stop Selling and Start Serv-Eng, and

a review of permitting changes from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

We ended the year by not only reaching our annual PAC (Political Action Committee) goal with ACEC National but also exceeding it by year-end. As of April, we are on our way to reaching the 2024 goal. ACEC of Maine has come up with some unique ways to raise PAC funds, including Pints for PAC, Craft Brew Cornhole Tournaments, Mulligans for PAC, and Fall/Winter and Spring/Summer state raffles. PAC funds are critical to ACEC's national message and involvement in shaping policy that impacts our industry.

Maine Legislative Updates



ACEC of Maine is the voice of the engineering business community in Maine. While there are other engineering organizations that serve as professional societies or which are focused on a particular discipline of engineering practice, only ACEC of Maine is focused on representing the interests of the business of professional engineering practice.

Advocacy is one of the main focuses and overall strategic goals of ACEC of Maine. From supporting legislation that affects the engineering business community, partnering with state agencies to resolve problems quickly or improve efficiency or participating in state task forces and commissions, ACEC of Maine continues to work on issues supporting the engineering industry.

ACEC of Maine, with the assistance of its lobbyist, monitored 78 bills during the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature. Of those, 28 became law, of which seven were enacted on an emergency basis. Those not enacted as emergencies took effect on August 8, 2024.

Items of note in the Supplemental Budget include:

- \$5 million for community climate change resilience grants.
- \$10 million to Maine Housing for workforce housing projects.
- \$1 million for the sand dune restoration fund.
- \$50 million storm recovery grants from MaineDOT for public and significant private infrastructure (e.g. working waterfront).

There are also three bond issues that will go to the voters in November that could have positive impacts:

- \$10 million to restore historic community buildings.
- \$25 million for Research and Development.
- \$30 million over four years for trails.

Member-only Affinity Program

ACEC Trust Programs

ACEC has developed Trusts, allowing our members to benefit from the purchasing power of ACEC. These Trusts save our members money, enhance membership investment, and help to control your firm's costs. We have created partnerships with reputable administrators and plan providers to offer our members valuable service, quality products, and competitive prices.

The ACEC Life/Health Trust is an Association Health Plan that has been serving ACEC Member firms since 1965. It offers affordable, high quality health plans to over 1,300 ACEC Member firms nationwide.



The ACEC Retirement Trust provides retirement plans for participating ACEC member firms, offering full service 401(k), Profit Sharing, and Money Purchase. A dedicated service team ensures professional assistance with all aspects of administering the plans and Defined Benefit plans with discounted fee schedules to all

member firms.

The ACEC Business Insurance Trust provides business and professional liability insurance coverage for participating ACEC member firms. The program offers policyholders tailored coverage along broad policy terms and conditions. Member only discounts and a Deductible Assistance Program save members money.



Discount Programs

ACEC's discount programs are designed to enhance your membership investment by helping to control your firm's costs. ACEC creates partnerships with reputable businesses that offer valuable services with quality and competitive prices. These programs can be used not only for business savings but make an attractive employee retention program where individual employees benefit from your ACEC purchasing power. The following discount programs and services are available to ACEC member firms and its employees.

BUSINESS TRAVEL TOOLS

Avis
Budget

BUSINESS SERVICE TOOLS

Lenovo
OfficeDepot
The UPS® Savings Program





Communications

News and Events, ACEC of Maine's newsletter, keeps members informed about what is happening in Maine and the US. It provides notices of upcoming events, legislative issues, local chapter news and announcements keep to members informed and involved.



ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Maine



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