

ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

December 24, 2025

[2026 Annual Corporate Sponsorship Opportunities Now Available](#)

Thank You to 2025 ACEC/MA CORPORATE SPONSORS

PLATINUM

- AECOM
- Arup
- GFT
- Geocomp
- HDR
- Jacobs
- MG + M The Law Firm
- Michael Baker International
- Mott MacDonald
- Simpson Gumpertz & Heger
- Stantec
- VHB
- WSP

GOLD

- Al Engineers, Inc
- Arora Engineers
- Beals and Thomas
- BETA Group, Inc
- BSC Group
- CHA
- Collins Engineers, Inc
- Dewberry
- Fuss & O'Neill
- GEI Consultants, Inc
- Green International Affiliates Inc., A Lochner Company
- H&H (Hardesty & Hanover)
- HNTB
- Horsley Witten Group
- IMEG Corp.
- Nitsch Engineering
- Pare Corporation
- STV
- TEC, Inc. The Engineering Corp
- Tetra Tech
- Tighe & Bond
- Weston & Sampson

SILVER

Happy Holidays from ACEC/MA

On behalf of ACEC/MA, we wish you and your colleagues a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season. Thank you for your continued engagement and support throughout the year.

Our next weekly newsletter will be **distributed on January 8.**

We look forward to connecting with you in the new year.

Registration is now open for the 2026 ACEC/MA Emerging Leaders Program

A seven-session leadership development series for engineers and design professionals on a leadership track. The program focuses on the business and management skills that matter most, including strategic planning, government affairs, marketing, contracts and risk management, and leadership fundamentals.

The program runs **February 24 through April 7, 2026**, with weekly evening sessions. Class size is limited and space is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Participants typically have **8 to 15 years of experience**, with enrollment capped at **30 participants**, limited to two per firm. There are currently less than 16 spots available.

The cost is **\$2,500 per participant** for ACEC/MA member firms.

[More Info](#)

ACEC/MA Award Nominations Now Open

[ACEC/MA 2026 Workplace Belonging and Engagement Award – Nominations Due 2-11-2026](#)

The Workplace Belonging and Engagement Award honors a firm's ingenuity, leadership, and commitment to advancing belonging, fairness, and opportunity within the profession.

[ACEC/MA 2026 Community Service Award – Nominations Due 2-6-2026](#)

The Community Service Award recognizes principals or managers of ACEC/MA member firms who have made outstanding contributions to the quality of life in the community

[ACEC/MA Young Professional Award – Nominations due 2-6-2026](#)

The Young Professional Award recognizes the accomplishments of our young professionals who have contributed to the engineering profession and impacted society. ACEC/MA will select two award recipients.

Reminder: MBTA Annual Audited Overhead Rate Submissions

- Apex Companies, LLC
- Benesch
- CDR Maguire Engineering
- CDW Consultants
- Fitzmeyer & Tocci Associates, Inc.
- French & Parrello Associates
- GPI
- Gray, Gray & Gray, LLP
- GZA GeoEnvironmental
- Howard Stein Hudson
- Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc
- McFarland Johnson
- PKF O'Connor Davies
- Samiotes Consultants, Inc.
- Sanborn, Head & Associates
- SLR International Corporation
- Stacey DePasquale Engineering

**ACEC/MA FY2026 Board
of Directors**

**ACEC/MA Forums &
Committees**

**Events & Briefings
Calendar**

**Join an ACEC/MA
Committee or Forum**



The MBTA has sent a reminder to Consultants and Subconsultants to submit company audited overhead rate report to the MBTA. The contractually required submission is due to the MBTA on an annual basis, within six months of the Consultant's fiscal year end.

Therefore, the annual overhead audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 is due no later than December 31, 2025, and fiscal year ending December 31, 2025 is due no later than June 30, 2026.

More Info

Board of Registration Virtual Public Hearing Planned for January 5

On 9/25, the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors took an initial vote in support of amendments to 250 CMR that would allow engineers from the United Kingdom (UK) to practice in the US and vice versa and to blend expertise between the UK and states in the US. They set a January 5, 2026, 9 AM virtual public hearing date at their November public meeting.

[Find the notice of the hearing and Teams linked here.](#)

Note from ACEC on FCC Ban on New Foreign-made Unmanned Aircraft Systems

On December 22, 2025, the the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) [announced](#) a ban on the import, marketing, or sale of new foreign-made unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and components. The ruling is based on a national security determination through an interagency working group, pursuant to provisions in last year's National Defense Authorization Act.

[Please see the memo from ACEC National here.](#)

ACEC/MA Education Corporation Scholarships



**For Engineering and Land Surveying Students
Scholarship Apps Due January 21, 2026 @ 5 PM.**

More Info: <https://www.acecma.org/news/acec-ma-education-corporation-fy2026-scholarships>

Share the news with Massachusetts engineering and land surveying students you know:

Apply for scholarships from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts Education Corporation (ACEC/MA EC) + ACEC Research Institute .

- Deadline for ACEC/MA Education Corporation scholarships: **January 21, 2026.**

- Deadline ACEC Research Institute scholarships: **March 13, 2026.**



More Information

Update on Proposed MEPA Regulatory Amendments

MEPA has proposed amendments to its regulations at 301 CMR 11.00 to streamline qualifying housing, ecological restoration, and conceptual urban renewal plans.

The comment period for this proposal closed on November 10, 2025.

Further information on proposed amendments may be found on the [MEPA Regulation webpage](#), along with [submitted comments on the proposal](#).

MassDOT Releases Allston Multimodal Transportation Project RFR

Earlier in December, MassDOT released a Request for Responses inviting qualified prospective consultants to submit proposals for professional services for performing an independent cost and engineering analysis of the Allston Multimodal Transportation Project. Find the RFR on COMMBUYS [here](#).

SBA Orders All 8(a) Participants to Provide Financial Records

Immediate action required for 8(a) firms: The Small Business Administration requires **three years of financial documents** from every 8(a) Program participant by early January.

[More information on the SBA Website](#)

MassDOT Creates Grant Central Online Portal

All applications and expense reimbursements for certain MassDOT programs are now managed through Grant Central: Chapter 90, Complete Streets, Culvert, Local Bottleneck Reduction Program, Municipal Pavement, Municipal Small Bridge, Shared Streets and Spaces, and Unpaved Roads.

Grant Central's new Fully Integrated Application (FIA) is an all-in-one funding request used for all of the MassDOT Highway Division's competitive grant programs. MassDOT accepts applications 2x per year. The current window is 11/6/2025 -1/9/2026. FIA does not apply to Chapter 90 or the Municipal Pavement Program; operation for these programs remains unchanged.

[More About Grant Central](#)

MassDOT Projects for Advertising both State and Municipal Priority of Projects (PoP) meetings and Lockdown AD Dates for FY26

MassDOT Highway Deputy Chief Engineer **John Bechard** shared important FY26 Advertising information with ACEC/MA on November 26.

[Here is a listing of FY26 State and Municipal Projects currently programmed for Advertising in Federal Fiscal Year/FFY 26](#)

[More information from MassDOT Highway.](#)

MBTA Memo on DBE Changes

MBTA's new Deputy Chief for Contract Services in MBTA's Engineering & Capital Division, **Elena Franks** contacted ACEC/MA with a [new MBTA memo \(12/1/2025\)](#) regarding changes introduced by The **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Interim Final Rule** (10/3/2025). This memo provides internal guidance regarding modifications to the DBE program in compliance with the U.S. DOT's Interim Final Rule, and how these changes impact the MBTA's current and future capital projects.

See related story below under Government Affairs: *USDOT Issues Updated Guidance on DBE Program Changes*

Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) Seeks 1 Professional Engineer for Designer Selection Committee

The MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) is looking for one PE to fill a two-year term for the EOHLC Designer Selection Committee (DSC) beginning in January 2026, with the possibility to serve another 2-year term beyond that. All DSC members are eligible to serve two consecutive 2-year terms.

We have been asked to identify qualified candidates to serve on the DSC.

[Learn More](#)

Massachusetts Board of Registration of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Seeks Chemical Engineer

[More Information](#)

Government Affairs

ACEC and FEDERAL NEWS

[A/E Industry Shows Resiliency in the Face of National Economic Volatility](#)

[Monitoring U.S. DOT Changes to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise \(DBE\) Program](#): ACEC National's continually updated landing page on DBE-related resources, including DBE FAQs on the Interim Final Rule (IFR), an interactive State DOT DBE Policies map, and ACEC Resources

Monitoring the Trump White House's Impact on Engineering: [Bookmark this ACEC page](#) - announcements, executive actions, & decisions **including tariffs** from White House that directly impact America's engineering & design services industry

STATE and LOCAL NEWS

[US pauses offshore wind projects over security, radar concerns](#)

[Massachusetts kicks off big bet on battery storage](#)

[MTF Summary of Governor Healey's Mass Ready Act](#)

The January GAC Zoom will be 1/28/26 at 10 AM. [Request Zoom for 1/28/26.](#)

Join us as we review bills impacting the engineering, land surveying, and design professional community.

[Join ACEC/MA GAC](#)

ACEC/MA STEM Task Force

Opps & Resources to promote **STEM careers**, particularly in Engineering & Land Surveying.

See our [STEM Task Force page](#) for opportunities to increase awareness about engineering and land surveying careers.

Upcoming Major Events to Save the Dates

March 4: ACEC/MA Breakfast Update on Climate Resiliency - [Save the Date](#)

April 2: ACEC/MA State Markets Conference - [Save the Date](#)

April 14: ACEC/MA Engineering Excellence and Awards Gala - [Save the Date](#)

May 3-6: ACEC National Annual Convention, Washington, DC - [Save the Date](#)

May 28: Engineers and Land Surveyors Day at the State House - [Save the Date](#)

Program Registration

***If Your Firm is an ACEC/MA Member, You're an ACEC/MA member.**

Get the ACEC/MA Member Rate for Programs: Register with your Individual username/password. Never use someone else's login info. ?s: Contact acecma@engineers.org or 617-227-5551.

Links live 12/24/2025; Next issue: 01/08/2026

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Abbie Goodman and Kevin O'Shea

ACEC/MA is supported by [The Engineering Center Education Trust](#) staff.

ACEC/MA FY2026 Board of Directors:

President: George (Gerry) G. Preble, PE, Beals and Thomas

President-Elect: Rebecca S. Williamson, PE, Jacobs

Senior VP: Filomena Maybury, PE, WSP

VP: Edward T. Baumann, PE, Benesch

Treasurer: Abdelmadjid (Madjid) M. Lahlaf, Ph.D., PE, Lahlaf Geotechnical Consulting, Inc (LGCI)
Past-President: Dawn Connelly, Green International Affiliates, Inc, A Lochner Company
Secretary: Deborah M. Danik, PE, Nitsch Engineering

Directors:

Kathy Campbell, PE, CDW Consultants, Inc.
John Doherty, PE, CDM Smith
Hillary Lacirignola, PE, Weston & Sampson
David Langlais, PE, Hoyle, Tanner & Associates
Bridget Myers, PE, Howard Stein Hudson
Doug Peterson, PE, Michael Baker International
Dori Ross, PE, Sanborn | Head & Associates, Inc.
Sam Taugher, PE, Tighe & Bond
Kristine Wickham-Zimmerman, PE, VHB

National Director: Christine Mizioch, AI Engineers
Legal Counsel: David J. Hatem, PC, MG+M The Law Firm
ACEC/MA Executive Director: Abbie Goodman
Incoming ACEC/MA Executive Director: Kevin O'Shea

American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts - acecma.org

Tel: 617-227-5551 | Fax: 617-227-6783 | Email: acecma@engineers.org

[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

ACEC/MA | The Engineering Center | One Walnut Street | Boston, MA 02108 US

This email was sent to acecma@engineers.org.

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma®