STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - EMPLOYMENT & INTERNSHIPS

Despite the lingering effects of the COVID-19 global pandemic and some economic uncertainty, the construction industry continues to thrive in the Seattle market (and nationally) and so have the employment opportunities for our students. This has created an environment wherein WSU Construction Management graduates have been incredibly successful in terms of securing internships and full-time employment. The Construction Management program at WSU coordinates and facilitates recruiting efforts in-house for both internships and full-time employment. The chart below shows the continual improvement regarding the percentage of students hired before graduation. It’s important to note that the students who were unable to secure full-time employment prior to graduation did indeed have full-time employment within 3 months of graduation. The average base salary for a WSU Construction Management graduate in 2023 was between $75,000 and $80,000 plus a variety of fringe benefits.

Opportunities for employment are abundant for graduating Construction Management students. As such, students are securing employment in the residential, commercial, and heavy civil sectors of the construction industry including associated specialty contractors. More information regarding placement statistics can be found on the website – Exit Survey Report 2023.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Construction Management faculty award the outstanding 2nd, 3rd & 4th year students based upon academic and extra-curricular prowess. The students are presented with the awards at the annual Voiland College of Engineering and Architecture convocation ceremony.
In addition to university-wide scholarship opportunities, certified Construction Management students are encouraged to apply for numerous scholarship opportunities within the program and the School of Design and Construction. The generosity of donors provides incredible financial assistance to our students. The total disbursement for scholarship awards was approximately $123,000 for the 2023-2024 academic year.

The scholarship application process begins in January and notifications are made in April. Scholarship awards are given in the fall semester of the next academic year. The scholarships available to students are as follows:

- Architecture + Construction Management Scholarship Fund
- Austin Robert & Jean Ward Scholarship Fund
- Burrill W. & Myrtle C. Bresemann Endowed Scholarship
- Brelsford Apartment Scholarship
- Raymond S. Chase Scholarship Fund
- Construction Management Scholarship /Award Endowment
- Construction Management Golf Tournament Scholarship
- Dimond Family Foundation Scholarship in Construction Management
- Russell Hitt Memorial Scholarship
- Inland Construction Scholarship
- JTM Construction Scholarship
- Larry & Joyce Fisher Scholarship in Construction Management
- GLY Construction Management Scholarship
- A. Donald Poe Scholarship Fund
- Prime Electric Endowed Scholarship Fund
- PSF Mechanical, Inc. & Beardsley Family Foundation
- John Nowoj Memorial Scholarship
- John and Karol Sattlerthwaite Scholarship Fund
- David & Louise Scott Scholarship Fund
- Schuchart Construction Scholarship
- Sellen Foundation Scholarship
- Skanska Scholars Scholarship (scholarship + internship)
- SpeeWest Scholarship in Construction Management
- S. Smith & E. Pond Scholarship
- Ted & Shelley Vanderheyden Endowment
- Venture Construction Scholarship

Additionally, our students are historically successful in securing scholarships from the following industry organizations:

- Associated General Contractors of America - Washington Chapter, Inland Northwest Chapter & National
- National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC)
- Design Build Institute of America (DBIA)
- Construction Management Association of America (CMAA)
- Deep Foundations Institute (DFI)
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - COMPETITIONS

ASC Student Competition. Annually, students from the Construction Management program compete at the Associated Schools of Construction’s Region 6 & 7 competition held in Sparks, Nevada. This is one of the largest construction management student competitions in the nation. Annually, there are over 1,100 students competing on approximately 173 different teams from 43 universities in 17 different categories over a two-day period. Each year teams will typically represent WSU in the Commercial, Design-Build, Virtual Design and Construction (VDC), and Heavy-Civil divisions. In 2023, WSU had three teams (Commercial and Heavy Civil) compete this year with the Commercial winning 1st place.

Depending upon student interest, WSU Construction Management students have also participated in the Mechanical and Preconstruction Services division. The competition provides an opportunity for further collaboration as the teams often include double-majors (Construction Management + Architecture) or students from architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, construction engineering, and civil engineering. The students and coaches put a considerable amount of effort into the team’s success. This effort is clearly exhibited in the fact that at least one team from WSU Construction Management has placed in the competition for all but one of the last 14 years.

DBIA Student Competition. This national competition sponsored by the Design-Build Institute of America started in 2012. The competition is intended to allow students to apply design-build best practices to successfully propose on a project.

The competition includes the two-step process of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and a Request for Proposals (RFP). The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) stage is open to everyone, but serves to shortlist the entrants from each region. During the Request for Proposals (RFP) phase the ten regional winners develop their delivery solution to design and construct a particular project. The top teams are invited to present their proposal before an expert panel at the Design-Build Conference and Expo. Teams from WSU have competed every year since the competition’s inception, taking 1st place regionally in 2012, 2018, and 2022 as well as taking 1st place nationally in 2012 and 2018.

MCA Student Competition. The Mechanical Contractors Association of America has sponsored a student competition within their annual convention every year for the last twenty years. The project focuses on the different plumbing and HVAC aspects of the mechanical sector of commercial and industrial construction. WSU students who are involved with the MCA student group have the opportunity to compete in this national competition.

NWCCC Student Competition. The Northwest Construction Consumers Council host a student completion for the Commercial teams in preparation of the ASC Student Competition on an annual basis. The schools invited to participate in this friendly, regional competition include the Construction Management programs from Washington State University, University of Washington, Central Washington and Oregon State University. The WSU team has won 1st place in 2020 and 2023.