



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
*of Colorado*

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### *Engineering Council Partners with Distance Education Giant* **Online Business Essentials Certificate Accelerates Leadership Readiness**

DENVER – **The American Council of Engineering Companies of Colorado (ACEC Colorado)**, the state’s largest engineering industry business association, announced a new business education certificate – Business Essentials – in partnership with Denver-based **Jones International University (JIU)**, the pioneer in online education, to bridge the gap between technical expertise and leadership education.

The Business Essentials Certificate prepares consulting engineering professionals for leadership positions and entering entrepreneurial roles as they start-up their own firms or advance into management positions in their businesses. The curriculum includes four master’s level courses - ethics, economics, accounting and financial management. Each course is offered every month, provides statewide access and accommodates varied work schedules. The design of the certificate also enables professionals to work toward their Master’s degree, as all credits are fully transferrable to master-level higher education programs nationally.

(more)

“As we pursued development of this certificate, it was important that we not only partner with an education expert, but ensure that the advanced curriculum offered was relevant to the needs of our industry professionals,” said Peter Monroe, P.E., ACEC Colorado president. “One of our roles as consulting engineers is to solve critical infrastructure issues, and a big part of that effort is creating sources of revenue, connecting partners and creating consortiums to achieve specific goals.

“Best practices training and education ensures that the public can be confident that their communities are safe, and that public and private sector clients have access to solutions that are technically advanced and economically responsible. It’s all about the business of engineering,” Monroe emphasized.

JIU was the first, 100 percent online, regionally accredited university by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

“JIU constantly seeks to provide innovative, quality accredited programs that meet the needs of its constituents,” said Dr. William Loendorf, Dean of the JIU School of Business. “The Business Essentials Certificate is a program that is designed to develop leaders and enhance their business skill set. We look forward to partnering with adult learners who are dedicated to improving their business skills to gain an edge in today’s competitive working environment,” Loendorf added.

Educations is a core initiative of ACEC Colorado, which actively maintains relationships with Colorado Colleges of Engineering, providing resources and consultation to ensure students are prepared for successful workforce entry. Offering internships, scholarships and a job board are among the Council’s higher education initiatives and development of the new certificate now provides another educational opportunity that specifically prepares engineering industry leadership.

For more details on ACEC Colorado’s new Business Essentials Certificate, visit [www.acec-co.org](http://www.acec-co.org) or [www.jiu.edu/acec](http://www.jiu.edu/acec).

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*The American Council of Engineering Companies of Colorado (ACEC/CO) is the business association of 230 member firms employing more than 10,000 employees in the independent private practice of consulting engineering. ACEC/CO is a primary resource for accessing engineering information, expertise and business ethics practices. The Council provides leadership and direction by developing practical, feasible options and solutions based upon technical collaboration to achieve enduring outcomes to benefit society.*