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What is ACEC?

The Association of Corporate Executive Coaches (ACEC) is a global community of senior-level executive coaches who work as Enterprise-Wide Business Partners™ inside complex organizations. We are not a general coaching association. We focus exclusively on high-stakes, organizationally embedded executive coaching – the kind that influences culture, performance, succession, and business transformation.

ACEC offers:

- The prestigious MCEC® (Master Corporate Executive Coach) credential
- Global peer-to-peer learning and Executive Intensives
- High-level research, thought leadership, and development
- A professional home for coaches who support senior executives and C-suite leaders

Why should I join?

ACEC is the only association in the world built specifically for enterprise-level executive coaches.

Members join to:

- Elevate their brand and credibility
- Deepen their impact inside organizations
- Collaborate with exceptional peers
- Gain tools for high-stakes leadership, strategic courage, and organizational transformation
- Access business-building and client-value resources you won't find elsewhere

ACEC is not simply a membership – it is an accelerant and a prestigious marker for senior executive coaches.

What is the MCEC® and how does it align with ICF?

The MCEC® is one of the highest professional credentials available to corporate executive coaches.

How it aligns with ICF:

- ICF focuses on coaching skills and competencies
- The MCEC® focuses on the enterprise-wide application: partnering with CEOs, CHROs, and senior executives on strategy, organizational culture, and business outcomes

Many members hold both credentials, but the MCEC® is uniquely positioned for coaches who operate at the intersection of leadership, business strategy, and organizational complexity.

Think of it this way:

ICF – validates your coaching skills.

MCEC® – validates your leadership impact.

As a Canadian, why should I join a U.S.-based association?

ACEC is not an American organization – it is a global organization headquartered in the U.S.

Our membership includes coaches from:

- Canada, Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, Asia, Australia

Canadian coaches join because ACEC helps them:

- Become competitive for cross-border and global contracts
- Strengthen credibility with multinational clients
- Learn from peers who coach inside the world's largest corporations
- Build a global footprint and future-proof their coaching practice
- Enhance their professional development by gaining access to real time coaching research, resources and wise practices.

In today's world, executives operate globally – and so should their coaches.

I have limited funds for renewing memberships. Why should I choose ACEC?

ACEC delivers a direct return on investment:

- High-level learning without excessive price tags
- A community that generates real business referrals
- Access to Executive Intensives, Roundtables, and publications
- Visibility opportunities (articles, podcast, thought leadership features)
- Provides a pathway to the prestige of the (MCEC) Master Corporate Executive Coaches certification pathway

If you want depth, peer excellence, and real-world credibility, ACEC gives you the highest value per dollar in the executive coaching and development market.

Many coaches have a variety of Coach Certifications. How does ACEC benefit them?

ACEC adds what many executive coaches say they need next:

- Business and organizational acumen
- Strategic Courage® thinking
- Exposure to learn about global executive challenges
- Exposure to global executive challenges
- Professional branding and visibility to corporate buyers
- Access to learn with and from a Corporate Enterprise Coaching community
- Wise coaching practices to deal with real-time complex enterprise challenges

It is not a question of either or, it is both.

Given the current political climate between Canada and the U.S., why join an American-headquartered organization?

ACEC is fundamentally about global unity, professional integrity, and leadership courage – not politics.

Joining ACEC:

- Strengthens your ability to coach inside multinational organizations
- Connects you to global leaders who value cross-cultural insight
- Demonstrates maturity, neutrality, and professionalism to your clients
- Access executive coaches who are living these challenges in real time

Your clients operate internationally –Your coaching network should too.

I'm nearing retirement and unsure whether to renew with ICF or join ACEC?
Can I qualify for MCEC® based on my long leadership career and coaching experience?

Yes – ACEC may be a better fit for your next chapter.

Why?

- ACEC is ideal for senior leaders transitioning to executive coaching
- Your organizational experience is an asset, not a barrier
- We value practitioners with deep leadership backgrounds
- ACEC offers a nurturing, highly professional community
- The Associate or Professional level may be an excellent starting point
- You may qualify for the MCEC® depending on your body of work

ACEC is a home for your expertise, not a burden on your wallet.

I am a CHRO with global experience. Should I join? Will it help with my next career stage? Am I eligible for the MCEC?

Absolutely

A Great Fit

You are exactly the kind of leader the MCEC® credential was designed for.

Your background in HR, OD, organizational leadership, and multinational operations uniquely positions you for:

- Executive coaching roles, Advisory roles
- Board-related leadership coaching
- Leadership development consulting
- Cross-border coaching work

Joining ACEC will help you:

- Stay professionally active, Build a global network
- Enhance your coaching brand
- Explore post-retirement opportunities
- Gain recognition for your decades of enterprise-level leadership

Yes, you can absolutely be considered for the MCEC® pathway.

Worries and Concerns – ACEC’s Commitment

a) ACEC 2.0 has international reach we are expanding global chapters, partnerships, and content.

b) “Plant seeds today to help us prosper tomorrow.” ACEC invests in long-term professional development, global partnerships, and member advancement.

c) “Be part of the solution – build bridges across divides.” *This is at the core of our mission. Coaches are bridge-builders. **ACEC is the home of strategic, global-minded coaches who operate above politics.***

We hear this.

ACEC 2.0 includes:

- Fair and transparent pricing
- Global access to content
- Hybrid delivery (to include all time zones)
- More scholarships and funds for hardship or transition

Equity is not an afterthought – it’s a principle.

Summary

“ICF is holistic for the individual.

***ACEC** is holistic for the individual and the organization.*

ICF separates the client from the environment.

ACEC understands the client through the environment – because executives do not lead in isolation.”



ACEC Locations:

International Headquarters - Dubai

US Headquarters - Colorado

Canada Headquarters - Coming Soon

**Partner - The Executive and Organizational
Coaching Association AECOP - Spain**