



Serra Akyuz

Senior Associate | Construction Consulting
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Professional Profile

Ms. Akyuz is a Senior Associate at Exponent with six years of experience in infrastructure development, construction management, and project management of large-scale aviation, building, transportation and advanced manufacturing projects for public and private sector clients. She specializes in complete project lifecycle management from design through construction, multidisciplinary stakeholder coordination, schedule and budget management, contract and scope management, and strategic project execution across electric transmission relocation projects for large utility programs.

Before joining Exponent, Ms. Akyuz planned, designed, and delivered complex infrastructure and industrial projects through roles spanning program management and construction management. Her experience includes leading multidisciplinary teams through all phases of project delivery, including project scoping, contract development, budgeting, scheduling, stakeholder engagement, risk management, and construction execution. Working across transportation infrastructure, public-sector capital improvement programs, and advanced manufacturing environments, she collaborated with leadership, engineers, design and construction teams, regulatory stakeholders, and operations personnel to advance projects while balancing technical, schedule, and business objectives. Her background has provided extensive experience in leading cross-functional decision-making, risk mitigation and maintaining critical operations and project continuity during infrastructure construction, relocation, and expansion efforts.

Ms. Akyuz earned a Bachelor of Arts and Science in Civil Engineering and Urban Studies from Columbia University and Barnard College.

Academic Credentials & Professional Honors

B.S., Civil Engineering, Columbia University, 2018

B.A., Urban Studies, Barnard College, 2017

Prior Experience

Project Manager, APE Studio, 2025

Construction Project Manager, Tesla, 2020-2023

Field Engineer I, Skanska, 2018-2020

Project Engineer Intern, Turner Construction Company, 2017

Project Controls Intern, Metro-North Railroad, 2016

Resident Engineer Intern, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation, 2015

Languages

Turkish

Project Experience

Electric Transmission & Utility Program Management

- Leads the delivery of electric transmission projects for a major utility client, advancing project development from planning through close-out. Drives coordination of land rights, engineering, environmental, construction, customer, and client stakeholders to support project objectives and execution.
- Oversees project governance, stakeholder engagement, and project reporting activities by communicating project status, facilitating strategic discussions, and coordinating with utility clients, customers, and project teams to support informed decision-making and project execution.

Infrastructure Program Delivery

- Supported the delivery of a \$1.26B transportation infrastructure expansion project by coordinating the design, construction and schedule of the civil scope across engineering, construction and client stakeholders.
- Co-managed approximately \$15M in construction contracts and supported cost forecasting activities for a major railway capital improvement program, helping maintain alignment between project scope, schedule, and budget objectives.

Advanced Manufacturing & Facility Implementation

- Led planning and construction projects for a pilot program focused on advanced battery manufacturing technologies, developing construction delivery strategies based on business objectives, stakeholder priorities and resource constraints.
- Coordinated with manufacturing leadership, engineers, designers and construction teams to design, build and launch pilot laboratories and manufacturing infrastructure, supporting operational continuity during technology deployment and facility expansion.

Strategic Planning & Executive Stakeholder Management

- Presented funding requests, implementation strategies, progress updates and risks to executive leadership, supporting project prioritization and resource allocation decisions for advanced manufacturing initiatives.
- Developed project schedules, coordinated key stakeholders and led cross-functional problem-solving efforts to resolve design, construction and operational challenges across infrastructure and advanced manufacturing environments.

Planning, Design & Project Controls

- Developed scopes of work, contracts and budgets and facilitated design reviews and technical discussions, enabling successful execution of multidisciplinary construction projects for public and private-sector infrastructure.