

AIA College of Fellows Nominees from AIA **Seattle** Application Information

Fellowship

The AIA Fellowship program was developed to elevate those architects who have made a significant contribution to architecture and society and who have achieved a standard of excellence in the profession. Election to Fellowship not only recognizes the achievements of the architect as an individual, but also honors before the public and the profession a model architect who has made a significant contribution to architecture and society on a national level.

Fellowship is bestowed by the national College of Fellows, and AIA's national office manage the submittal process. For many years, AIA Seattle has supported our local members who are interested in pursuing Fellowship through a nomination and coaching process.

Eligibility

Architect members who have been in good standing for at least 10 years may be nominated for Fellowship. Elevation to the College of Fellows recognizes significant contributions to the field of architecture that have national impact.

Information

Learn more about the College of Fellows, the application process, and access application toolkits on the AIA website at [The AIA College of Fellows | The American Institute of Architects](#)

Chapter Nomination

Each year, the Fellows and Honors Committee of AIA Seattle, comprised of Fellows within the chapter, calls for nominations from our members, and reviews the list of all AIA Seattle members that are eligible for FAIA based on years of service. The committee evaluates the likely strength of a potential submission for Fellowship based on the College of Fellows criteria and identifies potential applicants to provide chapter endorsement, and support with coaching. Those potential Fellows are supported in development of their FAIA submittal through coaching and submittal review.

Self-nomination for Fellowship vs Chapter Nomination

Many successful Fellows have submitted for fellowship without chapter endorsement—i.e., seeking and arranging for five Fellows or ten AIA members to nominate them, rather than the chapter. Members who choose to seek Fellowship without chapter endorsement can request coaching and submittal review by the AIA Seattle Fellows and Honors Committee, which will be available based on capacity of the committee. Potential Fellows through self-nomination must request support from the Fellows and Honors Committee no later than March 1st of the year they intend to submit for Fellowship.

How AIA Seattle can help you

Our members have shared that regardless of the outcome, putting your submittal together is one of the most arduous and soul-searching, and also the most rewarding, exercises an architect can undertake.

AIA Seattle has had a long and successful history of identifying and nurturing potential candidates for Fellowship. This has been possible thanks to a dedicated and hardworking Fellows and Honors Committee.

The Committee nomination and mentoring process works in parallel with, and complements, the official Fellowship process at National. Keep reading for all the information you need to work with AIA Seattle to prepare your submittal.

AIA Seattle Nomination Schedule

Late January

Chapter hosts the annual Path to Fellowship program to discuss the full Fellowship process, led by current members of the College of Fellows who are part of the Fellows & Honors Committee

January–early March

Chapter accepts nominations for potential Fellows.

March–April

Committee reviews eligible candidates, and selects candidates for chapter nomination who demonstrate the strongest likelihood of being able to create a complete submission for Fellowship.

May

Committee reaches back to individuals nominated for chapter nomination for the upcoming cycle.

June

The usual month the AIA Fellowship submissions open. Committee provides 30-minute coaching sessions to endorsed candidates, and to self-nominated candidates if capacity of the committee allows.

July–October

Committee provides critiques of Fellowship application drafts

October

Application deadline

Sponsor selection

Each nominee will need to select an individual FAIA sponsor. Your sponsor should know your work well and be willing to assist you in preparing and reviewing your

application. Sponsors needn't be from Seattle. AIA Seattle Fellows & Honors Committee Members may not sponsor individual candidates.

Members from other chapters

Not every component has the resources to maintain a nominating committee. AIA Seattle can only formally nominate members of AIA Seattle.

Successful submittals

- Your submittal should explain how you have advanced or influenced the profession in a manner that could not have occurred without your efforts.
- Focus on national impact as evidenced by national awards, speaking engagements, publications, acknowledgement from peers outside Seattle, or other national leadership. What ripple effect did your achievement have on the profession?
- Fellowship is an individual honor, not a firm award. Your specific roles, responsibilities, authorship in all projects cited must be clearly defined.
- Your strongest story may be about your achievements in Practice, or Alternative Careers.