
WASHINGTON STATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE AIA STRATEGIC COUNCIL

The AIA's Strategic Council and AIA Washington Council are seeking candidates for consideration and appointment as the AIA Washington Council Strategic Council Representative.

THE STRATEGIC COUNCIL

The Strategic Council advances the profession by informing the Board of Directors and other Institute bodies of important professional issues and opportunities. The Council is charged with surveying the profession to identify opportunities and threats, and engaging in strategic planning to inform the goals, objectives and strategies of AIA.

The Strategic Council is tasked with ideation/research/generative thought-based activities. It is an outward-focused, forward-thinking, and member-centric group.

THE ROLE OF A STRATEGIC COUNCILOR

Much of the Council's activity throughout the year is considered "blue-sky" thinking - searching for new ideas and solutions to relevant topical subject matter facing the profession. In this capacity, there is an element of futurist thinking as well. Collaborations entail visionary thought and ideation, deliberations, prototyping of ideas, and consensus building. The Council develops ideas to inform future needs or opportunities for the profession and presents those ideas to the AIA Board for consideration, alignment, and potentially, its support.

Those seeking election to the Council are encouraged to be innovative and open-minded and have experience in ideation; be strong communicators and connect with their constituents; and embody a collaborative, partnering spirit.

Supportive of AIA values promoting social equity, and inclusion, the Council strives to include a diverse array of men and women who represent a variety of ethnicities, and practice, and includes both small and large firm practitioners, educators, component (CACE) representatives, students, young architects, and other individuals brought on to the Council as deemed necessary to best carry out the Council's mission.

State Representatives to the AIA Strategic Council are elected through their respective state components to serve a three-year term.

STATE REPRESENTATION

The Washington State Representative will become a member of the AIA|WA board of directors as a non-voting, ex officio member for the duration of their term. They are expected to attend monthly board meetings, to engage with membership, solicit input on relevant issues and understand current concerns. These engagements are opportunities for Councilors to report to members on the activities and progress of the Council.

WASHINGTON STATE STRATEGIC COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE IN DETAIL

- Suggested minimum qualifications:
 - 3-5 years of service on a board of directors, does not need to be architecture related
 - Licensed architect
 - Experience in a team environment to develop strategic direction or strategic initiatives

- Appointed by the AIA|WA board of directors.
- Appointee must be an AIA member in good standing
 - This is a 3-year commitment. Councilors are required to be able to provide significant volunteer hours per week.
- Appointee is expected to attend National Strategic Council face-to-face meetings at least twice a year, in addition to teleconferences. Council meetings are known as “Assemblies.” AIA National funds attendance at these Assemblies and the events below except as noted (see below). These assemblies include:
 - Orientation and meetings with National Board and Council during Governance Week in Washington, DC (generally the first week of December)
 - Requirements: participate in Strategic Council activities; provide a report to AIA|WA on findings within 30 days following the conference.
 - AIA Conference on Architecture (usually held in late-May or early-June)
 - Time Commitment: Up to 4 days including travel for in-person conference. Virtual conference requirements will vary.
 - Requirements: participate in Strategic Council activities at convention; attend relevant member and leadership events; provide a report to AIA|WA on findings within 30 days following the Conference
- Appointee is expected to attend National work groups and committee meetings as outlined below
 - *Work Groups:* Council members are required to participate in a Work Group which studies issues deemed relevant by the Council at that time. Work Groups generally meet via hour-long teleconferences once a month, as well as at the Council’s scheduled face-to-face meetings. The Work Group selects one or more members of the group to serve as a convener/leader, who is responsible for reporting for the group and coordination with the moderator and the other Work Groups.
 - *AIA Board Committees:* Councilors may also be appointed to AIA Board Committees (Equity and the Future of Architecture, Finance and Audit, Government Advocacy, Knowledge, Public Outreach, or Secretary’s Advisory). These committees meet in Washington, DC, in February, and may have another face-to-face meeting as well as monthly teleconferences.
 - *Other Opportunities:* Councilors may be asked to serve on task forces to work on a specific and short-term project such as organizing for an event or upcoming meeting or dealing with a timely issue.
- Attend AIA|WA Capital Connections Legislative Day (usually in late January)
 - State to reimburse for travel costs as needed
 - Time Commitment: Up to 2 days including travel for in-person conference. Virtual conference requirements will vary.
 - Requirements: participate in legislative meetings.

- Participate in AIA|WA monthly board meetings and special meetings, virtual and/or in person
 - Travel for in-person board meetings is reimbursed by the State if needed.
 - Requirements: to provide updates and report on Strategic Council meetings, decisions, activities, events, decisions, etc. as they arise.

APPLICATION

An applicant can be nominated by a Washington State component and self-nominations are also acceptable. The appointment will be made by the AIA Washington Council board of directors by September 1, 2025.

Nominators and interested candidates are asked to submit the following information (please have all information included as a single PDF file):

- Applicant Letter of Interest: one page maximum describing applicant's interest and qualifications for the position.
- Supporting materials: up to five 8-1/2x11 pages maximum, including:
 - Applicant's resume
 - Three letters of recommendation from AIA members, licensed architects and/or a local AIA Component in Washington State.

Applications should be received by August 1, 2025.

Please email your application to Tammie Sueirro, AIA|WA Executive Director at tsueirro@aiawa.org.

QUESTIONS

If you have questions regarding the program you can contact the AIA|WA's Executive Director Tammie Sueirro, tsueirro@aiawa.org.