

The Tradewell Fellowship: Frequently Asked Questions

General Questions

1. What is the duration of the Tradewell Fellowship?

The duration of each Tradewell Fellowship is 12 months.

2. When does the Fellowship year begin?

Generally, the Tradewell Fellowship follows a June to June cycle. For May graduates, flexibility is provided on a case-by-case basis for those who need to begin their Fellowship year in May or July.

3. Does the Fellowship include full-time employment?

The Tradewell Fellowship includes one year of full-time employment at WHR Architects, Inc.

4. Is it a paid position? Does it include benefits?

The Tradewell Fellowship is a salaried position and includes benefits. In addition, the cost of attending a conference of the Fellow's choosing during one's Fellowship year is covered.

5. Is the Tradewell Fellowship based out of a particular office or can I choose a location?

The Tradewell Fellowship is based out of the Houston office. Depending on project and studio assignments, the Fellow may have opportunities to collaborate with staff from other offices.

6. Is the Tradewell Fellowship open only to recent graduates? What if I'm a mid-career professional?

Applicants range from recent graduates to career change candidates. The selection committee's main focus is to identify and select candidates who demonstrate devotion and potential to advance the field of healthcare design.

7. Can I visit the office? Does this give me or anyone else an advantage in applying?

Applicants and potential applicants may set up an appointment to visit the WHR Houston office through the Curator or current Fellow. The selection committee is sensitive to the perceived advantage that local applicants think they may have. The committee may request any local or long distance applicant to hold a video conference interview during the evaluation process.

Applying for the Tradewell Fellowship

8. What are the application requirements and where can I find them?

The Tradewell Fellowship application is made available at www.whrarchitects.com/tradewell by October 1st of each year. Only complete application packages received by the deadline will be reviewed by the selection committee. A complete application consists of:

Application form

One-page resume

One essay (see application for topic specific questions)

Portfolio consisting of maximum five sheets, no larger than 11"x17" (two-sided permitted)

Application packages must be provided in both hardcopy and digital form (CD).

Three reference letters sent directly from the reference source by mail or email.

9. What is the required file formatting for the CD?

PDF

10. What type of degree do I need to have to apply? Is there a specific level of education that is required for eligibility?

At a minimum, by the commencement of the applicant's Fellowship year, the applicant must hold a NAAB, CACB or NAAB substantially equivalent, accredited, first professional degree in Architecture.

11. What if I'm in school at the time of application?

Candidates may apply while in school as long as they meet the educational requirements stated above at the commencement of the Fellowship year.

12. Is prior healthcare practice experience required? Do I need research experience to apply?

Prior experience in healthcare or research is not required; however, if candidates have had such experience, please include in the application. In the past, applicants have ranged from recent graduates to licensed professionals with 20+ years of healthcare experience.

13. Are international applicants eligible?

International applicants are eligible provided they satisfy the educational requirements listed above. Eligible candidates must have authorization to work in the US as mandated by the US Citizenship & Immigration Services for the contiguous 12-month period. Currently, WHR Architects, Inc. does not offer H-1B visa support for the Fellowship year. However, WHR is proud of the fact that some Fellows, including those with visas, have had extraordinarily successful years and went on to join WHR full-time immediately following their Fellowship year.

14. When will I hear back from the selection committee?

The selection committee endeavors to complete selection within approximately one month. If additional material or video conferences are requested, the Curator will contact candidates in advance.

The Tradewell Fellowship Experience and Requirements:

15. What is a typical Tradewell Fellowship year?

No two Fellowship years have been alike; however, all have had the following core experiences in common:

Mentorship

Opportunities in front-end phases such as master planning, pre-design and schematic design.

Opportunities to contribute to evidence based design, authoring research, and presentation activities.

Creation of a body of work suitable for publishing (the Tradewell Project).

Assistant teaching a graduate level course, such as the University of Houston Clearlake Class with focus on Healthcare Administration

16. Do I have to assist in teaching a Graduate level course? What is involved?

Yes. This is a great opportunity to interact and develop relationships with potential future clients. Requirements range from creating presentation materials and presenting to leading tours and fostering discussion. Currently, the class is held at the WHR Houston office on Saturday mornings during the academic Spring semester.

17. What are the criteria for the Tradewell Project?

The Tradewell Project must be self-defined, self-produced, suitable for publishing and completed by the end of one's Fellowship year.