

FIRST-YEAR MASTERS/PHD BUILT ENVIRONMENT FELLOWSHIP

OVERVIEW

Colorado State University's [Institute for the Built Environment](#) (IBE) invites full-time, first-year Masters and PhD students who wish to add a practical, collaborative aspect to their studies to apply for a one-year fellowship position. Fellows will be selected on a competitive basis and will receive an award of \$3,000 to \$6,000, dependent on the candidate pool. Each fellow will be part of an interdisciplinary team, receive professional mentoring, and work with other fellows to develop and publish an applied research brief.

IBE's interdisciplinary approach enriches fellows' exposure to the many facets of sustainability and supports meaningful collaboration between disciplines and departments across campus. A distinguishing outcome of this fellowship will be to publish a professional resource that facilitates real-world application in advancing healthy, thriving built environments.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The one-year fellowship begins in August 2019 and concludes in August 2020. A total award of \$3,000 to \$6,000 will be deposited into fellows' student accounts. The funding level is dependent upon the candidate pool.

The goal of the IBE Fellowship Program is three-fold—to:

- support graduate student success
- prepare students for successful careers after graduation
- further IBE's mission to advance the development of healthy, thriving built environments.

Unlike many academic programs and fellowships, the IBE Fellowship provides the opportunity and support to publish a professional resource that creates real-world impact. Ideal candidates will have interest in sustainability in the built environment.

Successful first-year fellows will earn priority consideration to continue their fellowship for a second year, during the 2020-2021 academic year. Read more about this competitively-awarded senior fellowship on IBE's website.

Fellowship Benefits

IBE will provide mentorship, sustainability skills training, and support in thesis/project direction, professional networking, and job hunting. Fellows will have the unique opportunity to publish a resource

that will be included in and promoted by IBE in its portfolio of education and research offerings. IBE will guide fellows to maximize the market relevance of their research.

In addition to receiving an award of up to \$6,000, fellows will receive priority consideration for a paid IBE internship. If selected as an IBE intern (paid \$14-\$19 per hour), fellows will work on real-world, client-based sustainability projects. These could include initiatives such as managing third-party green certifications, customizing corporate sustainability programs, helping cities develop new policies, and facilitating applied research teams. A fellowship does not guarantee internship work.

A unique aspect of the fellowship, given IBE's highly collaborative nature, is engagement with a diversity of professions. IBE staff come from an array of backgrounds including architecture, construction management, landscape architecture, interior design, education, sociology, and biology. Staff members hold professional credentials, including LEED, and have experience in such innovative disciplines as regenerative development and biomimicry. IBE has close working relationships with various CSU offices and programs, including the Office of the Vice President for Research, Sociology, Construction Management, Interior Design, Landscape Architecture, Business, and Natural Resources.

Expectations of Fellows

Fellows will collaborate on a cross-disciplinary team to create a resource that translates academic research into an actionable, professional tool. The resource may be a white paper, training guide, handbook, case study, educational resource, policy brief, community report, or another marketable product that meets a pre-identified market demand and is mutually agreed upon with IBE. Estimated work time over the course of two semesters is roughly 215 hours.

Over the course of the year-long fellowship, fellows will be expected to:

- Serve on IBE's Fellowship Committee and submit a program evaluation to inform ongoing improvements to the program,
- Participate in monthly, one-hour fellow collaboration sessions with IBE's Director of Research,
- Participate in monthly, one-hour staff meetings with IBE leadership, fellows, and interns,
- Present their research/project during an IBE staff meeting,
- Contribute to IBE's blog, and
- Develop a resource that translates academic research into an actionable, professional tool.

Fellowship Initiatives

Ideal candidates will have interest in sustainability, health in the built environment, and/or food systems. IBE strongly encourages applications from students who are interested Social Network Analysis, Agricultural Economy, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Relevant projects are based in and adjacent to major redevelopments in West and North Denver that address:

- Combining and improving network data at the nexus of food, water, community and environmental stewardship through the combination of participatory social network analysis and geographic information systems (GIS);
- Stakeholder engagement, including design teams, neighborhood residents, and site users;
- Building an understanding of how resources flow through collaborative projects and initiatives at and around the National Western Center and/or Sun Valley in Denver to increase the health and capacity of relationships in the network.

Here is a sampling of recent IBE fellowship initiatives:

- A Masters of Public Health student developed a whitepaper to inform a new lifelong housing certification and communicate the values and principles of lifelong housing.
- A Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Communications crafted a whitepaper that introduces a competency model for regenerative practice.
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- A Masters of Business student is surveying a landscape of social and living labs in North America to provide recommendations for the Fort Collins Urban Lab, and other living labs with methods for better networking and business sustainability.
- A Masters of Sociology is engaging with the Fort Collins Urban Sustainability Resilience Network to provide a network analysis of sustainability actors in Fort Collins in education, private practice, and community groups.
- A Ph.D. student in Organizational Learning, Performance, and Change is developing an online course for sustainability professionals to guide teams to high-performance using an effective integrative design process.

QUALIFICATIONS

We seek high-energy individuals who are eager to share their knowledge and learn, able to balance multiple roles and responsibilities, receptive to feedback, and motivated to develop a wide range of skills that may be required of individuals working in the built environment sector. Specific requirements for applicants include the following.

Minimum Qualifications

- Accept offer of admission to CSU and register as a first-year Masters or PhD student by July 2019
- Strong interest in IBE's mission
- Ability to work with IBE an estimated 100-220 hours from August 2018 through August 2019, with the potential for ongoing fellowship and internship work thereafter
- Exceptional enthusiasm and commitment to learning
- Ambition and strong ability to take initiative
- Strong interpersonal skills as demonstrated by written and verbal communication, awareness of impact of self on others, and commitment to personal growth and self-reflection
- Ability to work in a fast-paced, team-oriented setting
- Proficiency with MS Excel and Word; experience with PowerPoint
- Interest primarily in Social Network Analysis as a methodology; additional interest and/or experience with GIS is a plus

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience working on a multidisciplinary team
- Intending to pursue a thesis/project that will benefit from interdisciplinary collaboration and a practical approach aligned with sustainability in the built environment

TO APPLY

To apply for the IBE Fellowship, please send the following to Colin Day at colin.day@colostate.edu no later than 11:59 PM MST on April 14, 2019.

- One-page cover letter that includes:
 - How your academic interests align with IBE’s mission and activities
 - Overview of your key strengths, both professionally and personally
 - Description of your experience working on multidisciplinary teams
 - What would make you a great addition to the IBE team
- Resume that includes:
 - CSU program and relevant courses
 - Previous work experience and current commitments
 - Three professional and/or academic references
- One writing sample, no longer than three pages (e.g., blog article, report, case study, etc.)

Applicants will be notified of their acceptance by mid-May.

ABOUT IBE

The [Institute for the Built Environment](#) (IBE) is housed within the College of Health and Human Sciences at Colorado State University (CSU). Our mission is to advance the development of healthy, thriving built environments. We form interdisciplinary teams of off-campus professionals and on-campus faculty and students to take research to practice. Our mentorship program offers experiential education and practical knowledge for students who aspire to be leading sustainability professionals. Students are supported and mentored by senior institute staff and provide professional work products for IBE clients. IBE’s Fellowship program is supported by funding awarded through IBE’s designation as a CSU [Program of Research and Scholarly Excellence](#). Learn more about our [mentorship program](#).