

State Associate Representative (STAR)

2027–2028 Term

Call for Applications

Deadline: April 10, 2026

Are you an Associate AIA member interested in tackling the challenges facing recent graduates and emerging professionals? Want to help shape solutions at a national level? The Texas Society of Architects is now accepting applications for the 2027–2028 National Associates Committee Texas State Associate Representative (STAR).

Every two years, one Associate AIA member is selected to represent Texas on the National Associates Committee. This is a unique opportunity to step into a larger leadership role within AIA, influence the future of the profession, and expand your network with the NAC, YAF, and AIA at both regional and national levels.

STAR Purpose

The purpose of the STAR role is to represent and support Associate AIA members through the work of the National Associates Committee (NAC) by advancing their careers and strengthening their voice within the profession. The NAC promotes excellence, leadership, and inclusivity while encouraging innovation, engagement, and connection across the Associates community. It works to challenge the status quo, foster mentorship, support licensure, and encourage advocacy and service. Through this work, the NAC helps make AIA membership more meaningful and impactful for emerging professionals.

NAC Overview

The State Associate Representative (STAR) works with their counterparts, the YARs, AIAS Quad Director and Architect Licensing Advisors. STARs are responsible for gathering information about issues facing Associates within their states and disseminating information about national/state activities and resources for use at the local level. Of equal importance, STARs serve as a vital link between Associates and the national organization. STARs are the key to vertical communication, connecting Associate leaders at all levels of the Institute. STARs are also encouraged to work on various issues important to them and their states through the NAC work groups.

More information about the NAC can be found here:

www.aia.org/cep

Application Requirements

The State Associate Representative (STAR) must be an Associate Member in good standing of a component within the State and must not be licensed at the time of submission. No individual may serve as a STAR for more than four years in total, whether consecutively or non-consecutively. This eligibility shall remain consistent with the requirements of the NAC as of the time of the election of the STAR. The STAR shall serve a 2-year term (January 2027 – December 2028).

STAR Responsibilities

The STAR is the primary connection between local, state and the NAC. The STAR keeps communication flowing between these groups by:

- » Maintaining quarterly communication with all NAC chapters within the state.
- » Serving as a conduit between local NAC chapters and the Young Architects Forum (YAF) Advisory Committee.
- » Collecting and disseminating information to local, state, and national components.
- » Participating in the NAC Annual Meeting.
- » Working on various national issues.
- » Working on at least one group identified by the NAC annually.
- » Suggesting or encouraging emerging professionals for nomination for state or national awards, positions or committees/subcommittees.
- » Communicating with Young Architect Representative (YAR) quarterly about how to work together to support each other's efforts.
- » Attending AIA's convention, when possible.
- » Working within TxA to ensure that expectations from state leadership are clearly defined and met.
- » Attending and participating as a voting member at state board meetings.
- » STARs may be asked to volunteer on AIA board committees.

NATIONAL LEVEL COMMITMENTS

- » NAC & YAF Joint Annual Meeting (Q1) 2 – 2.5 days
- » NAC full committee conference calls – 1 hour each estimated quarterly
- » NAC taskforce/workgroup conference calls – 30-60 minutes monthly
- » Additional time dedicated to working the efforts/goals of the committee approx. 4 – 6 hours a month
- » AIA Leadership Exchange calls – 1 hour quarterly
- » Recommended: AIA Leadership Summit, AIA Conference on Architecture

STATE LEVEL COMMITMENTS

- » Attend and participate in quarterly board meetings – three will be in person – full day Thursday and half day Friday. These meetings will take place at various locations, generally in Texas. The Q4 meeting will be a full-day virtual meeting.
- » Leadership Retreat – This will be a two- to three-day meeting in January, generally held in Austin, and will include the full board, committee chairs, and local chapter leadership.
- » Work with the TxA Associate Director and YAR to curate Emerging Leaders programming for TxA's annual conference.
- » Work with TxA staff to produce a quarterly EP newsletter

STAR FUNDING

AIA National covers the costs for STARs travel, food, and lodging to attend the NAC/YAF Annual Meeting. TxA provides a stipend to cover expenses for all TxA Board Meetings and the Leadership Retreat, TxA's annual conference, and either AIA Leadership Summit or the AIA Conference.

SELECTION PROCESS

TxA's Nominating Committee, together with our current STAR & YAR will prepare nominations to be reviewed and elected by the Board of Directors of TxA in June 2026. Once approved by the TxA Board, the slate is presented to the full Texas membership at the Annual Business Meeting.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- » **Friday, April 10, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. CT**
- » If you have any issues uploading files using the Google form, or if you simply prefer email, all application items can be sent via email to sharna@texasarchitects.org. Please include "2027-2028 STAR" in your subject line.
- » Application items: Statement of Interest, resume, recommendation letters (optional), headshot, and any additional details you'd like to add.