Director of Government Affairs & Advocacy
Call for Applicants

Texas Society of Architects

Deadline: November 19, 2026

ABOUT THE POSITION

The Texas Society of Architects (TxA) is seeking an experienced and collaborative Director of Government Affairs & Advocacy to lead the organization's legislative, regulatory, and grassroots advocacy efforts. This position plays a key role in advancing policies that support the architecture profession, protect public health, safety, and welfare, and promote the value of architects in shaping Texas communities.

The Director develops and implements TxA's advocacy agenda, represents the organization before state policymakers and regulatory agencies, and builds relationships with elected officials, industry partners, and members across Texas. Working closely with volunteer leadership and a collaborative staff team, the Director also oversees the organization's political action committee, supports member engagement in advocacy, and helps strengthen the profession's voice in public policy.

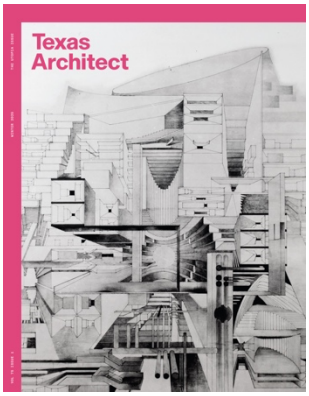
The ideal candidate is a strategic thinker and effective communicator with a strong understanding of Texas government, the legislative process, and political affairs. This individual will be comfortable navigating complex policy issues, building relationships across diverse constituencies, and translating legislative and regulatory developments into meaningful information and opportunities for member involvement.

ABOUT THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

The Texas Society of Architects (TxA) was founded in 1939 as the state component of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). As a 501(c)(6) professional membership organization of approximately 7,800 architects, TxA is the voice for Texas architecture, supporting the creation of safe, beautiful, sustainable environments. TxA advances Texas architecture, the architectural profession, and the power of design through advocacy, knowledge, and communication.

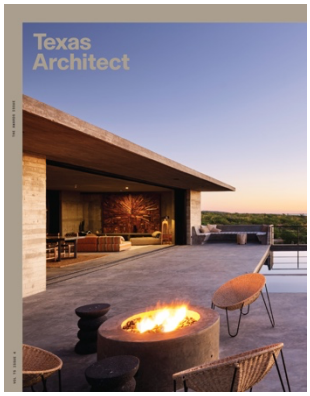
The Society works on behalf of Texas architects to ensure they are broadly represented and are recognized as creative and innovative leaders for the built environment. Headquartered in Austin, TxA is the third largest regional component of AIA National and host of 18 local AIA components.

TxA is a catalyst for collaboration and diversity, governed by a Board of Directors, stewarded by staff, and driven by a set of actively engaged committees. Our membership model and annual conference are the primary fuel for the Society's budget. Headquartered in Austin, Texas, TxA also is the organizational home of the Texas Society of Architects Committee (TAC) political action organization and the Texas Architectural Foundation (TAF), which provides scholarships to students at Texas schools of architecture, and the publisher of *Texas Architect*, a magazine published five issues annually.









EXPECTED EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE

Job Responsibilities Include:

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & PUBLIC POLICY

- Lead the development and implementation of TxA's legislative and regulatory agenda in collaboration with organizational leadership and the Government Affairs Steering Committee.
- Monitor, analyze, and respond to legislation, regulatory proposals, and public policy developments affecting architects, professional licensure, and the built environment.
- Develop and maintain productive relationships with legislators, legislative staff, state agencies, regulatory boards, and other policymakers.
- Represent TxA before legislative committees, regulatory bodies, and stakeholder groups through testimony, policy discussions, and advocacy initiatives.
- Research policy issues, develop position statements, and coordinate the preparation of legislative proposals, amendments, testimony, and other advocacy materials.
- Identify emerging policy challenges and opportunities, recommending proactive strategies that advance the profession's interests and TxA's organizational priorities.
- Build and maintain partnerships with allied professional organizations, industry stakeholders, and other groups on shared policy priorities.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT & GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY

- Strengthen TxA's grassroots advocacy program by creating opportunities for members to engage with elected officials and participate in the legislative and regulatory process.
- Serve as the primary staff liaison to the Government Affairs Steering Committee, supporting member-driven policy development and advocacy initiatives.
- Work with local AIA components to build advocacy capacity, support local policy engagement, and strengthen connections between members and state leadership.
- Collaborate with communications staff to develop timely legislative updates, advocacy alerts, educational resources, and messaging that communicates the profession's priorities and impact.
- Plan and coordinate advocacy events and initiatives, including TxA's biennial Architects Day at the Capitol.
- Represent TxA at member meetings, conferences, and industry events, providing updates and presentations on legislative issues and advocacy priorities.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

- Oversee the strategic activities of the Texas Society of Architects Committee (TAC), TxA's state political action committee.
- Develop and implement fundraising and member engagement strategies to support the PAC's long-term growth and effectiveness.
- Monitor state elections and political developments, providing analysis and recommendations to PAC leadership.
- Ensure compliance with applicable campaign finance laws, reporting requirements, and organizational policies.

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP & COLLABORATION

- Work closely with TxA leadership, staff, volunteer committees, and external advocacy partners to advance the organization's strategic priorities.
- Supervise and support government affairs staff and coordinate the work of external advocacy consultants as appropriate.
- Support organizational initiatives and special projects as needed.

Required Skills and Qualities:

- Bachelor's degree in political science, public policy, government, communications, or a related field preferred; equivalent professional experience will be considered.
- Minimum 5 years of professional experience in government affairs, legislative policy, advocacy, association management, or a related field.
- Strong knowledge of Texas state government, the legislative process, and regulatory affairs; experience working with the Texas Legislature strongly preferred.
- Demonstrated ability to develop advocacy strategies, analyze complex policy issues, and communicate effectively with policymakers and diverse audiences.
- Experience building relationships with elected officials, government agencies, professional organizations, and volunteer leadership.
- Excellent written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills, including the ability to prepare policy materials, deliver presentations, and represent an organization in public settings.
- Strong organizational and project management skills, with the ability to manage multiple priorities, work independently, and collaborate across teams.
- Experience with political action committees, campaign finance, or grassroots advocacy preferred.
- Familiarity with architecture, professional licensing, construction, or built environment policy issues is a plus but not required.
- Ability to work extended hours during legislative sessions and attend occasional evening events and meetings.
- Position is based in Austin, TX, and is primarily in-office with hybrid flexibility with statewide and some national travel as needed

Position Details:

- Salary: $115,000–130,000 annually, commensurate with qualifications and experience
- Full-time, with flexibility to accommodate legislative sessions, occasional evening events, and meetings

Benefits:

- Medical, dental and vision insurance 100% covered
- 401(k) matching 100% up to 5%
- Life insurance
- Short-term and long-term disability insurance
- Paid vacation and sick leave, plus annual holidays
- Professional development opportunities

APPLY

Please submit cover letter and resume to jobs@texasarchitects.org for consideration by November 19, 2026, or until the position is filled. Applications will be reviewed as they come in by Sharna Pascolo, CAE, Interim EVP/CEO.

Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and interviews may begin immediately. Applications will be accepted through November 19, 2026, or until the position is filled, whichever occurs first. Early applications are encouraged.