



ARCHITECTURE. URBANISM. CITY MAKING

Able City - Summer Discovery Program

Summer 2023
McAllen, Texas.

About Able City:

Able City is committed to sharing its passion for the built environment through student-centered mentorship and training. We are eager to help support the next generation of leaders in the Rio Grande Valley in the architecture and planning fields.

One-week Job shadowing program (July 10th-14th)

Able City's Summer Discovery program invites one local high school student to join our McAllen office for a paid one-week long job shadowing training. The purpose is to give students a chance to gain their first industry work experience, and to nurture an early passion for the built environment and community-driven design.

Tasks

The selected student will be introduced to the Able City-McAllen office's work in the Rio Grande Valley, and will be encouraged to take advantage of Able City's resources to plan out what a positive impact on their community would look like for them. By accompanying architectural staff to various levels of meetings and sometimes even site visits, the student will gain exposure to many parts of the design process. They will also witness decision-making both in the details of drawings, plans, sketches, etc., as well as the big-picture of the project pipeline as a whole. Finally, the student will be invited to ask questions and explore their curiosity, both during meetings and while shadowing staff during technical production. The student will leave the program more equipped not just with more contacts and mentors in the industry, but with professional skills and confidence that can propel them forward into a future career education path.

Time and Compensation:

This paid position will be 20 hours a week at \$14/hr for one week. The student will have the option to continue the program for up to one additional unpaid week for further development and to build their exposure.

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Experience:

Preference will be given to high school students who are enrolled in architecture early preparation programs in the Rio Grande Valley. Students from backgrounds otherwise underrepresented within the design profession are encouraged to apply.

Application:

Please email responses no later than May 22nd to each of the following short prompts to Elizabeth O'Toole (elizabeth@able.city):

- Where is a place you like to go in the Rio Grande Valley, and why?
- If you could change one thing in the built environment around you, what would it be?
- What makes a public space a great place for community to gather, and how do you think it can be better served through design?
- What is one thing about architecture or planning that you would like to learn more about?

Selection Process:

A short phone interview will be scheduled with three students during the week of May 22-26th. The selected student will be notified of acceptance within the following week.

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