CITYBRIDGE

2023 Design Fellowship Application

Basic Info

Thank you for your interest in 2023 Design Fellowship Application! For more information on the program and timeline, please visit the CityBridge website. To complete your application, please proceed with the following questions:

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Phone

Resume

Address (City, State, Zip Code)

Optional: Share the link to your LinkedIn Profile

Are you a DCPS educator?

○ Yes

○ No

If you are a DCPS school leader, school staffer, or central office employee, have you been in touch with your supervisor about Design Fellowship? We expect that all DCPS school teams have the support and endorsement of their school principal or supervisor.

○ Yes

○ No

What school or organization do you work at? (*If you work for DCPS Central Office, please specify the team.*)

[   ]

Which pathway are you submitting your application for?

○ School Transformation: Teams at existing DC Public Schools and DC Public Charter Schools that want to design or redesign an element of their school program.

○ Venture: Entrepreneurs who want to start or grow a social enterprise that supports rigorous and equitable public education.

○ New Models: Teams that want to begin the work of designing a new public school model in Washington, DC.

Demographics

Demographic Disclaimer: THE FIRST FOUR (4) QUESTIONS ARE ENTIRELY VOLUNTARY. As part of our mission, CityBridge has an intentional focus on supporting entrepreneurs of color. To help us track the effectiveness of our efforts to recruit diverse candidates, we invite applicants to consider answering these questions.

What are your pronouns?

☐ She/her/hers

☐ He/him/his

☐ They/them/theirs

☐ I prefer not to respond

☐ [   ] I prefer to self-describe

Race and Ethnicity- I identify as:

☐ American Indian / Native American / Alaska Native

☐ Asian / Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander

☐ Black / African American

☐ Hispanic / Latinx

☐ Middle Eastern

☐ White

☐ [   ] Multi-racial or multi-ethnic

☐ I prefer not to respond

☐ [   ] I prefer to self-describe

I identify my gender as:

☐ Woman

☐ Man

☐ Non-binary or Genderqueer

☐ Transgender

☐ Third Gender

☐ I prefer not to respond

☐ [   ] I prefer to self-describe

Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community?

○ Yes

○ No

○ I prefer not to respond

○ [   ] I prefer to self-describe

If you would like to further self-describe any of the above questions, please do so here:

[ ]

Teams

Participation in Design Fellowship is a rigorous experience. We require participants in the program to have at least one additional team member to participate in the program with them. However, if you do not have a team member yet, this is not a disqualifier, but individual applicants accepted to Fellowship will be expected to identify a team before the program begins.

In the past teams have been successful with group sizes in these ranges:

School Transformation: 2-4 total members
Ventures: 2-3 total members
New Models: 2-3 total members

○ I do have team member(s) who will participate with me. (If so, please specify the names and roles of each team member below)
○ I don't have a team member who will participate with me at this time.

If you know the teammate or teammates who will participate with you, please list their names, email addresses and their roles on your team:

[ ]

If you have a teammate who will participate with you, please upload their resume here:

How did you hear about this opportunity?

○ You Participated in Design Studio
○ From a current or past CityBridge program participant
○ CityBridge website

○ Email

○ Social Media

○ Friend or Colleague

○ A CityBridge staff member

○ Blog or publication

○ [   ] Other

Problem/Solution

The following required questions will allow us to better understand the problem you are working on, who the problem affects, and how you are trying to approach the challenge.

What is the problem you have identified? Who are the people affected by this problem and how have you engaged them so far? Please be as specific as possible and use data / evidence as support, when possible. (200 max)

At CityBridge, we believe equity is the cultivation of belonging. Belonging is being able to participate in the design of political, social, and cultural structures and having the right to contribute and make demands upon society and institutions. *Given the long history of racism in school systems, we center race in our work.*

How has your own understanding of equity shown up in the problem you have identified? Please provide an example with some details.

For the following two questions, we want to understand what you have tried before in order to address this problem. If you have not yet tried or tested a potential solution, then we want to understand what you want to try in the future.

Have you tried to address this problem before? If so, what did you do? What were the results? How did you change course, based on evidence or feedback? (200 words)

While we do not expect participants to come in with a solution, we want to know what you're thinking. Do you have an idea for a solution to address your stated problem? If so, please describe your solution. If not, please describe how you hope the Design Fellowship will help you develop a solution. (300 words)

What are some of the barriers to innovation that are holding this problem in place? (200 words)

What are some potential barriers to implementing your proposed solution? (200 words)

Help us understand how far along you are in developing your Venture idea. Is it an idea or have you engaged others around it? Have you tested a simpler version of the product or service you'd like to create? Have you made a sale of the product/service? Have you received any funding--grants, venture capital, etc.? (150 words)

Ventures and New Models

We want to know that you're tackling an issue that meets a need in your community. What steps have you taken to see if your community has shown demand in your idea? For example, have community members: attended an info session about your idea, given you feedback, participated in a discussion or interview about the issue you're trying to address, etc.? (150 words)

Optional: If you have any additional materials that will help us understand the problem you are working on or the venture you are trying to build, please upload those materials here. Additional materials are not required, but some applicants will already have them, and we want you to have the opportunity to share. These materials might include: marketing materials, a "pitch deck," or additional documents that explain your problem or the work you have done on this before. Attach your materials here: (max upload size 100MB)

School Transformation

We want to understand the conditions for doing equitable innovation around the problem you have identified in your school. One tool for analyzing these conditions is the "Conditions for Innovation" framework from Transcend Education (pdf). Please review the conditions document before answering the next question: What is one condition of the framework where your school is strong (conviction, clarity, capacity, coalition, culture), and what is one condition of the framework where your school has the most room to grow? Explain. (200 words)

Block 6

Thank you for applying to CityBridge's Design Fellowship Fall 2023 cohort! This is the final page of the application. By clicking the "next" button you will be submitting your application. We look forward to reviewing your application.

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