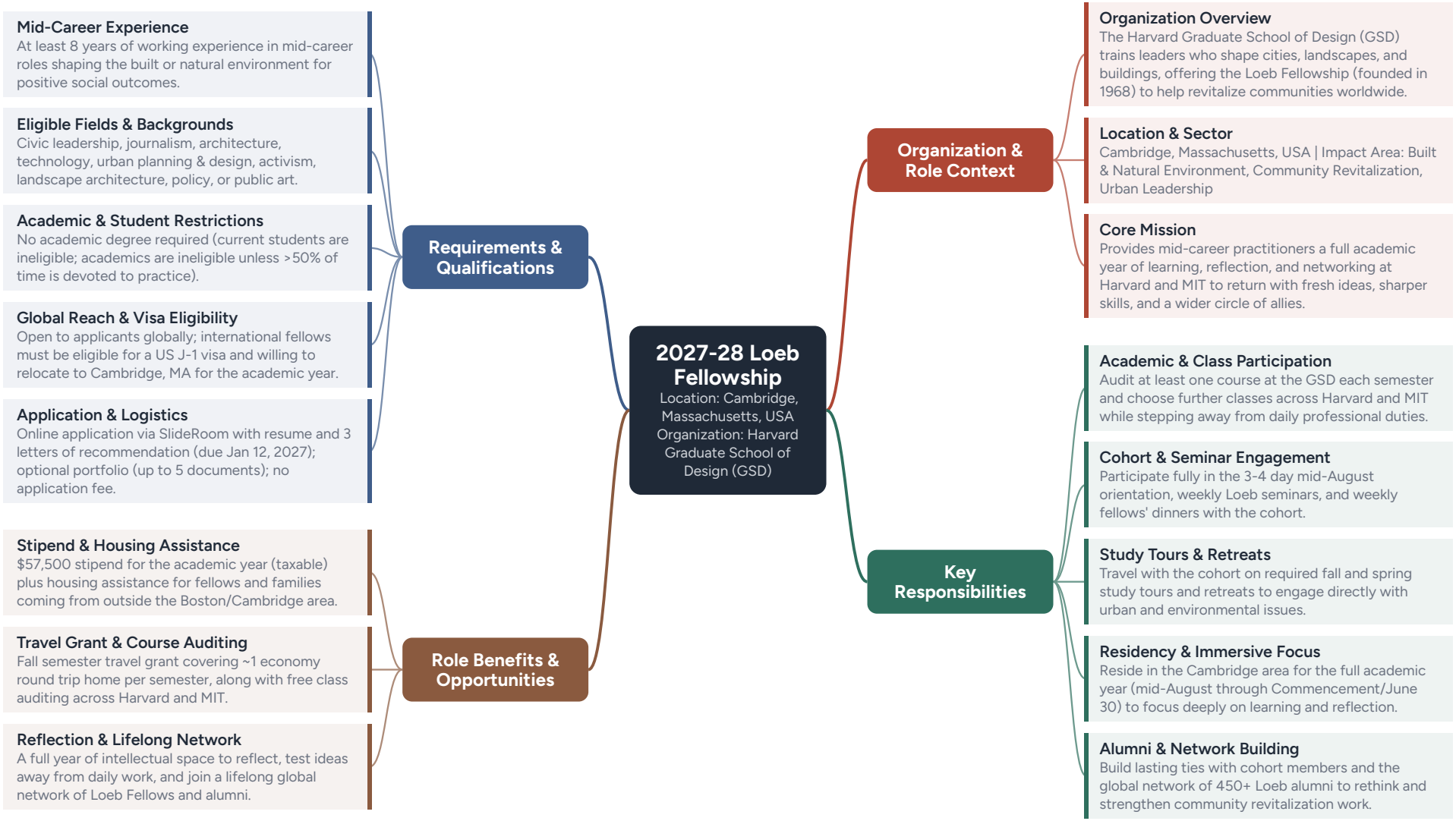
Harvard Graduate School of Design

Loeb Fellow in Cambridge | Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)

Cambridge, Massachusetts · fellowship · senior level · ₹55.07L stipend for the academic year · Closes 5 Jan 2027

Application Assist →

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Skills this role needs

Urban planning and design	Community revitalization	Civic leadership	Public policy	Public interest design

Job description

Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)

The Harvard Graduate School of Design trains people who shape cities, landscapes and buildings. In 1968 John L. Loeb and his wife Frances set up the Loeb Fellowship at the school to help revitalize communities. Each year it brings up to 10 experienced practitioners from across the US and the world to Cambridge for a year of learning and reflection. Fellows include civic leaders, journalists, architects, technologists, urban planners and designers, activists, landscape architects, policy makers and public artists, all working to make the world a better place for everyone.

Role

As a 2027-28 Loeb Fellow, you will step back from your daily work for one academic year and live in Cambridge, Massachusetts. You will take classes at Harvard and MIT, learn alongside a small group of fellows, travel together, and build connections that last long after the year ends. The fellowship is for people already doing serious work on the built and natural environment who want to return with fresh ideas, sharper skills and a wider circle of allies.

Responsibilities

- Step away from significant roles with your employer and other work for the fellowship year.
- Attend a 3 to 4 day orientation in mid-August, the week before classes start.
- Live in the Cambridge area while classes are in session.
- Audit at least one course at the GSD each semester, and choose further classes across Harvard and MIT.
- Take part in the weekly Loeb seminar with your cohort.
- Join the weekly fellows' dinners.
- Travel with the group on the fall and spring study tours and retreats.
- Build lasting ties with your cohort and the global network of Loeb alumni.
- Use the year to rethink and strengthen your work on revitalizing communities.

Requirements

- At least 8 years of working experience in your field. The fellowship is for people in mid-career.
- Work that shapes the built or natural environment and leads to positive social outcomes, for example civic leadership, journalism, architecture, technology, urban planning and design, activism, landscape architecture, policy or public art.
- A degree is not required. Students are not eligible.
- Academics are usually not eligible unless more than half of their time goes into practice.
- Applicants from every country are welcome. International Fellows must be eligible for a US J-1 visa when they are selected.
- Willingness to live in the Cambridge area for the academic year. Fellows arrive in mid-August, and the program officially ends the day after commencement. Fellows in fellowship housing must move out by June 30 at the latest.
- Time to fully take part in classes, the weekly seminar, weekly dinners, study tours and retreats.
- An online application through SlideRoom, a resume and three letters of recommendation. Letters are due by January 12, 2027.
- A portfolio or supplemental materials are optional, and applicants are encouraged to send up to five documents.
- There is no fee to apply.
- Fellows pay for their own health insurance and child care, because the program does not cover them.

Benefits

- A stipend of $57,500 for the academic year, which counts as taxable income.

- Help with housing for Fellows and their families who come from outside the Boston and Cambridge area.
- A travel grant, paid in the fall semester, that covers about one economy round trip home per semester.
- Free auditing of regular classes at Harvard and MIT.
- A full year of space to learn, reflect and try new ideas away from daily work.
- A lifelong global network of Loeb Fellows and alumni working to improve communities.

Apply

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About the organisation

Harvard Graduate School of Design

Higher Education (Design & Planning)

gsd.harvard.edu ↗
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About Harvard Graduate School of Design

The Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD) is Harvard University's graduate school for the design of the built and natural environment. It says its purpose is to educate "leaders in design, research, and scholarship to make a resilient, just, and beautiful world." The school has three departments: Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Urban Planning and Design. It has granted degrees since 1936, and architecture teaching at Harvard goes back to 1874. Alongside its degree programmes, it runs research centres and labs, executive education, a mid-career fellowship, and a public programme of lectures, exhibitions and publications, including Harvard Design Magazine.

> *Headquarters: Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA*

Major Areas of Work

- Architecture: Design teaching and research on buildings, architectural history and theory, and architectural technology.
- Landscape Architecture: Design and research on landscapes, ecology, parks and the relationship between land and cities.
- Urban Planning and Design: Planning, urban design and real estate, covering how cities grow, are governed and are financed.
- Design Engineering and Technology: Systems-level work across design and engineering on problems such as rapid urbanisation, climate change and resource scarcity, supported by its Laboratory for Design Technologies.
- Housing, Sustainability and the Built Environment: Research through the Joint Center for Housing Studies, the Harvard Center for Green Buildings and Cities, the Just City Lab and the Healthy Places Lab.

Major Initiatives and Programmes

- Architecture degrees: Master of Architecture I, Master of Architecture I AP and Master of Architecture II, for students entering the profession and for those who already hold a professional architecture degree.
- Landscape Architecture degrees: Master in Landscape Architecture I, I AP and II, structured on the same entry levels as the architecture degrees.
- Urban Planning and Design degrees: Master in Urban Planning, Master of Architecture or Landscape Architecture in Urban Design, and Master in Real Estate.
- Master in Design Engineering: A degree run jointly with the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, combining design and engineering to address large social and environmental problems.
- Loeb Fellowship: A one-year programme for experienced mid-career practitioners who shape the built and natural environment, including planners, designers, civic leaders and journalists, who audit classes at Harvard and MIT. A university degree is not required to apply.

Impact

The GSD states that the Loeb Fellowship, which traces its roots to 1968, has an alumni network of more than 450 members. It maintains partnerships with the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, which co-runs its design engineering degree, and with MIT, where Loeb Fellows also take classes.

Leadership

- Sarah M. Whiting, Dean and Josep Lluís Sert Professor of Architecture
- Martin Bechthold, Academic Dean
- Mark Goble, Administrative Dean
- Janice Gilkes, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

A role at the GSD places you inside a research university where architecture, landscape, planning, real estate and engineering are taught and studied side by side. Staff and researchers work alongside faculty, students and visiting practitioners from around the world, and the school runs a steady programme of studios, research labs, exhibitions and publications. It suits people interested in design education, academic administration, urban and environmental research, or public programming, who want exposure to how the built environment is studied and shaped at an international level.

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