Urban place management is our focus and our passion. The International Downtown Association is the premier association for urban place managers who are shaping and activating dynamic downtowns, city centers and neighborhood districts.

Through our network of diverse practitioners, a rich body of knowledge, and unique capacity to nurture community-building partnerships, IDA provides members with tools, intelligence and strategies to transform cities into healthy and vibrant urban places that anchor the well-being of towns, cities and regions of the world.

We invite you to join IDA’s Academic Membership, under which faculty and students can take advantage of a number of benefits and gain exposure to inspiration, trends, research and data. Join IDA today to access resources and connect enthusiastic and energetic students with strategies to help them become future inspired leaders shaping cities.
WHY IDA?

IDA is the only international organization that represents urban place managers who bridge the gap between public, private and community needs on a global scale, and brings together small, medium and large organizations to share best practices, collaborate on research and advocate proven strategies. Academic membership offers direct connection to organizations, real-world experience, and expertise to help students and faculty learn, thrive and stay competitive in the marketplace.

RESEARCH

IDA maintains a wide array of resources on proven solutions, innovative trends and research to ensure students and faculty are always at the forefront of the place management industry.

• Access to a unique knowledge base of urban place management best practices, research and innovations.
• Learn from place management thought leaders and experts during IDA's weekly webinar series, Advancing Places.
• Stay on top of business intelligence by receiving IDA's weekly e-newsletter, Inspired by IDA.
• IDEA Connection, IDA's member-only virtual community, connects a responsive global network of practitioners, experts, and fellow students.
• Further your education by exploring IDA's library of conference presentations, webinar recordings and research briefs.
• Member-only savings on IDA publications and events.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

IDA is committed to fostering industry knowledge, education and information, and collaborates with local, regional and international partners to develop the industry's best events and networking opportunities. IDA events and webinars provide easy access to professional expertise across multiple disciplines covering topics as diverse as small communities and downtowns.

• Industry job and internship placement services.
• Member-only mentorship opportunities with IDA staff, board of directors, and other industry professionals.
• Opportunities to attend in-person mixers with industry colleagues and fellow students.
• Sponsored Scholarships and/or member-only savings for IDA events.

MEMBER SERVICES

Personal access to technical assistance and guidance provided by our professional staff for answers to questions or direction and advice on issues that are specific to the place management profession.

• Create a listing in the Membership Directory to connect with peers and potential employers around the world.
• Learn about tools, products and services from IDA's network of worldwide downtown service providers.

JOIN IDA WITH AN ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIP TODAY

These features and benefits give your institution a direct resource to contribute to your urban curriculum and provide your students with a jump-start on their career within the place management profession. An annual membership fee ($1,000 USD) provides access for an unlimited amount of faculty and students.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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“Since the age of sixteen, I’ve followed IDA’s research and publications with the aspirations of one day joining the network of city-building experts. I was fortunate to continue my involvement through college and shadow different BIDs in New York City. I kept my finger on the pulse of industry-wide trends, and was equipped to address quality-of-life issues with the support of both the IDA network and professional staff.”

—Gabriel Yeager, Downtown Environment Specialist
Milwaukee Downtown, BID #21