



# WHO PLANS YOUR TOWN?

(HINT: It Could Be You)

## WHAT IS PLANNING?

Urban and community planning is about **shaping the places where people live, work, learn, and play**. Planners work with communities and local leaders to decide how land is used, how neighborhoods grow, and how people move around safely. By thinking about both today's needs and the future, **planners help create communities that are healthy, inclusive, and ready for what's next.**

## SKILLS PLANNERS USE

- Problem-solving & critical thinking
- Communication & teamwork
- Creativity & big-picture thinking
- Data, maps, and technology

## KICKSTART YOUR PLANNING CAREER WITH APA – FOR FREE!

*(If you qualify for the student membership)*

**Students actively enrolled or matriculated in a university or college degree program can join for free** and the membership remains valid throughout the duration of their studies. After completing their studies, student members can enjoy two years of reduced dues eligibility. If you don't qualify for the free student membership, you can join as a chapter-only member for only \$55 per year.

Visit <https://idaho.planning.org/membership/> to learn more about our membership options.



American Planning Association  
**Idaho Chapter**

✉ [info@idahoapa.org](mailto:info@idahoapa.org)

🌐 [idaho.planning.org](http://idaho.planning.org)

🌐 [planning.org/educators/whatisplanning](http://planning.org/educators/whatisplanning)

## CAREERS IN PLANNING

Planning offers a wide range of careers where you can shape communities and make a real impact. Planners work in cities, counties, nonprofits, private firms, and government agencies.

## TYPES OF CAREERS

- **Urban & Community Planner** – Plan neighborhoods, housing, and community growth
- **Transportation Planner** – Design safer streets, bike paths, and transit systems
- **Environmental Planner** – Protect natural resources and plan for climate resilience
- **Parks & Recreation Planner** – Plan parks, trails, and open spaces
- **Housing Planner** – Help create affordable and diverse housing options
- **Economic Development Planner** – Support local jobs and business growth

## HOW TO GET STARTED

- Visit <https://planning.org/> to learn about the profession
- **Join APA Idaho and get involved**
- Contact your local planning department and ask to meet with a planner
- Attend a public meeting or public hearing
- Take a class in a related field (geography, public policy, environmental science, GIS)
- Explore colleges/universities that offer planning degrees