Mentee Application

TransitCenter is a foundation that works to improve public transit in ways that make cities more just, environmentally sustainable, and economically vibrant. We believe that fresh thinking is needed to radically improve transit and the overall livability of cities. Fresh thinking can take the form of new planning and engineering approaches, innovative policies, the inclusion of a variety of voices in decision-making, or diversity in leadership.

TransitCenter’s Women Changing Transit mentorship program aims to connect women transit professionals with women leaders in transit to serve as mentors to help guide, advise and grow in their careers. The year-long mentorship program is open to applicants who identify as women and who are in the first 10 years of their career, in any facet of the transportation field: planning, engineering, administration, operations, finance, and advocacy. The multidisciplinary nature of this mentorship is intended to support and enhance connections and relationships across public/private/non-profit lines.

Program Requirements
Mentees must commit to once a month check-ins with assigned mentor as well as to 3 in-person meetings with the group over the course of the year. The first in-person meeting will be a study trip, focused on mentors and mentees getting to know one another, and sharing their successes and challenges in the field. The second two in-person meetings are designed around existing industry conferences and offer an opportunity to engage with the wider transportation community while also spending time in-person with the mentor-mentee group.

This program will cover mentee travel, expenses, and conference fees.

Program Dates
April 28- May 1, 2019:
Women in Transit Kickoff - Austin, TX

July 28 - 31, 2019:
APTA Sustainability & Multimodal Planning Workshop - Boston, MA

September 9-12, 2019:
NACTO Designing Cities Conference - Toronto, ON
PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:
(Please limit each response to 500 words or less)

1. What are you looking for in a mentor? What do you hope to get out of this program?

2. What do you see as the greatest challenge to women’s advancement in the transit field? What support would be useful in aiding your own professional advancement?

3. What do you see as the biggest challenge facing transit/transportation right now and how would you fix it?

4. What inspires you to work in transit?