PROJECT MANAGER / LAB PLANNER

DiMella Shaffer is seeking a Lab Planner / Project Manager with roughly 8–12 years of experience to help shape and deliver projects for university, life science, and advanced manufacturing clients. This role is ideal for someone who understands how laboratories function, enjoys building relationships with scientists and facilities teams, and likes turning complex technical requirements into thoughtful, flexible spaces.

You will lead laboratory programming and planning from early discovery through construction, managing small to mid-sized projects and leading the laboratory scope on larger ones, with mentoring and support from our senior lab planners and project leaders.

WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Lead programming and user-group sessions with researchers, lab managers, EH&S, and facilities staff.
- Develop laboratory planning concepts, modules, and test fits for new, renovated, and converted labs.
- Prepare room data sheets and equipment plans, and specify casework and fume hoods.
- Coordinate laboratory utilities, ventilation, and specialty systems with MEP engineers and consultants.
- Advance sustainable, energy-efficient laboratory strategies.
- Manage small to mid-sized projects and lab scopes, including schedules, budgets, and staffing.
- Serve as the day-to-day contact for clients, and coordinate consultants, vendors, and contractors.
- Lead construction administration, including submittal review, RFIs, and site observations.
- Contribute to proposals, fee development, and interviews for our science and academic work.

REQUIREMENTS

- A professional degree in architecture
- 8–12 years of professional experience, including at least five years of laboratory design.
- Experience managing projects or substantial scopes, including schedule, budget, and client communication.
- Working knowledge of laboratory building systems, ventilation, casework, equipment, and safety.
- Experience translating user-group input into clear, coordinated, buildable plans.
- Proficiency in Revit and experience with presentation tools.
- Clear written, verbal, and graphic communication.

EXPERIENCE THAT WILL HELP YOU SUCCEED

- Architectural registration or progress toward licensure.
- Experience with teaching and research labs, including renovations in occupied buildings.
- Experience with vivariums, BSL-2 labs, cleanrooms, or pilot-scale manufacturing.
- Familiarity with lab codes and standards such as NFPA 45, and with LEED, I2SL, or Smart Labs.

If you're excited about the work we do and believe your skills and experiences align with this opportunity, we encourage you to apply, even if you don't meet every qualification.

WHAT MAKES DIMELLA SHAFFER DIFFERENT

We look for people who will make our whole team stronger over the long term, and we do not hire for specific projects. Our Science + Technology work is part of a broader design practice, so you will bring strong planning and strong design together across a wide range of project types. You will engage directly with clients and laboratory users, and as your experience grows, you will lead larger and more complex projects and help shape the future of our Science + Technology practice.

SALARY

$110,000–$125,000 annually

Final compensation will be based on the candidate's relevant experience, technical capabilities, qualifications, and alignment with the responsibilities of the position.

READY TO APPLY

To submit your application, click here: https://www.dimellashaffer.com/careers/lab-planner-project-manager/

DiMella Shaffer is proud to be an Equal Employment Opportunity employer. We do not discriminate based upon race, religion, color, national origin, gender, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, protected veteran status, disability, or any other legally protected characteristic.