# **Religious Director/Lead Imam Job Opening**

The Islamic Society of Greater Houston (ISGH) Masjid AL-Salam (a.k.a Champions Masjid) is seeking an inspirational, passionate, knowledgeable, and dedicated leader to fill the position of **Religious Director / Lead Imam**. Masjid Al-Salam, established in 1998, serves a growing and vibrant Muslim Community of over 5000 community members in Northwest Houston. As a Religious Director / Lead Imam, you will be vital in developing the community by providing religious guidance, education, and leadership. Candidates for this position should be eligible to work in the US.

- Job Title: Religious Director/ Lead Imam
- Employment Type: Full-Time
- Reports To: Executive Body with a functional line to Associate Director
- Effective: Immediately
- Compensation: Competitive and Commensurate with Qualification & Experience

Primary Responsibilities (Subject to Change as Required by the Administration and Community Needs)

# **I.Community Development:**

Identify Key Concerns and Improvement areas within the Community with a <u>transformational</u> <u>mindset</u> and formulate a sustainable SMART strategy to address them. (SMART - Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-bound)

## **II.Leadership Development:**

Identify and nurture leadership potential in the community. Organize leadership training programs, workshops, and retreats that empower Muslims to take active roles in the community. Encourage youth and sisters' involvement in the Masjid's activities and committees. Cultivate a sense of community responsibility, volunteerism, belonging, and ownership. Invests in self-development and continuing education.

#### **III.Community Engagement:**

Plan and execute community development and engagement activities by working closely with Champions Committees. Build and foster relationships with key stakeholders in the broader greater city of Houston community to stay abreast of their work and identify opportunities for collaboration. Lead and actively participate in community-organized events. Effectively utilize communication channels to regularly engage and keep the community abreast of the programs to increase participation. Actively motivate the community to donate during community fundraising events and in one-on-one settings with major gift donors.

### **IV.Religious Counselling:**

Offer guidance to community members on matters related to Islamic beliefs and practices. Collaborate with the ISCH Fatwa committee to provide religious rulings on Islamic jurisprudence matters. Provide spiritual support during times of difficulty, grief, and crisis. Provide pre-marital religious counseling for couples. Create a safe and welcoming space for new Muslims and youth to express themselves and seek guidance.

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## **V.Islamic Education and Outreach:**

Conduct high-quality and impactful religious classes, seminars, lectures, sermons (خطب), and workshops to educate the community on various aspects of Islam. Own Ramadan educational activities and programs. Perform Nikah Ceremonies, lead funeral prayers, and attend burials as needed. Drive efforts to introduce Islam to non-Muslims. Train teachers, religious advocates (دعاة): on religious matters (خربية). Engage with youth programs.

# **Qualifications and Experience:**

### **I.Deep Knowledge of Islam and Educational Credentials:**

Possess and practice an extensive understanding of Islamic theology, jurisprudence, and spirituality. Hold a degree in Islamic studies, Shariah, or a related field from a reputable institution, Master degree is a plus. Familiar with various schools of thought and ability to provide well-reasoned opinions. Hafiz of the Holy Quran is preferred.

### **II.Strong Teaching and Communication Skills:**

Demonstrated ability to teach effectively and communicate complex religious concepts clearly and in an engaging manner. Excellent public speaking skills with the capacity to inspire and connect with diverse audiences.

#### **III.Organizational Skills:**

Strong organizational and time management skills, with the ability to multitask, prioritize, and meet deadlines. Attention to detail in program planning, logistical needs, and record-keeping.

#### **IV.Self-driven:**

Consistently has the vision and passion for developing and driving new programs and empowering teams.

#### **V.Community Leadership Experience:**

- Proven experience of +7 years in a large community with leadership roles within an Islamic center or similar organization.
- Ability to work collaboratively with diverse community members, including board members and volunteers.
- Strong leadership abilities, including the capacity to motivate, mentor, and empower the community.
- Proven experience building relationships with families within a community or organizational setting.

#### VI.Youth Engagement:

- Demonstrated experience working with youth and a genuine passion for their personal development and well-being.
- Ability to address youth-related issues and concerns.

#### **VII.Language Skills:**

Proficiency in English is required, both written and verbal. Additional proficiency in other languages commonly spoken by the community is highly desirable.

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# **VIII.Talented Influencer:**

Experience teaching, influencing, and counseling others on social and religious issues: Elders, Sisters, and Youth. Must have social media presence for networking with the community.

# To apply, please submit these (2) documents to (jobs@isgh.org):

- **1.Cover letter:** A personalized letter introducing yourself, explaining why you are interested in the position, and highlighting your relevant qualifications, experience, and what you hope to achieve during your role. (No more than 2-pages).
- **2.Resume:** A comprehensive document summarizing your most recent educational background, work experience, research or academic achievements, publications, and other relevant information. (No more than 3-pages).

# The following items will be requested once the initial screening is completed:

- **1.Letters of recommendation:** Three letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with your work and qualifications. These letters should be from Imams, mentors, board members, community leaders, or professionals who can speak to your abilities as a potential candidate.
- **2.Academic transcripts:** Copies from your official transcripts from your previous educational institutions, which provide a record of the courses you have taken, grades earned, and any degrees or certifications obtained.
- **3.List of publications:** Examples of your scholarly work, such as published articles, multimedia, research papers, or conference presentations. These samples should demonstrate your research, writing, and delivery abilities.
- **4.Social Media Presence:** List of Social media pages, channels, and samples of quality content.