

Emerging Leaders Academy FAQs

What is the APWA Emerging Leaders Academy?

A national program offered by APWA that provides intensive leadership and management training within the context of public works. It encourages professional growth through a strong network of peers, and offers an in-depth introduction to APWA at the national, chapter, and branch levels.

Who benefits from participating in the Academy?

The candidates must be “professionals who have been working in the field of public works for seven years or less” and “those who have demonstrated an interest in advancing their careers within the profession.”

What are the benefits from participating in the Academy?

Many agencies and organizations recognize the importance of professional leadership training when hiring and/or promoting managers and supervisors within public works-related disciplines. The Academy’s intensive training in core leadership and management skills also prepares individuals for roles in their respective APWA chapters and branches.

How much time will it take to participate in the Academy?

The Emerging Leaders Academy is a year-long program that starts in October and concludes the following September. It is essential that individuals who participate in the Academy are willing to make the time commitment and have the support of their management to advance through the program.

What are the primary activities of the Academy?

The Academy’s activities include monthly one-hour conference calls, quarterly online mentoring calls, a two-day retreat in Kansas City, MO, and attendance at the APWA International Public Works Congress & Exposition. It is expected that participants will also complete reading assignments and other class projects as requested by the Academy Coordinator.

How much will it cost to participate in the Academy?

Individuals must secure a financial sponsor to cover the costs associated with attendance at the APWA International Public Works Congress & Exposition. These costs include the Congress registration fee, roundtrip travel, hotel accommodations, and meals.

All other costs associated with the Academy (including the two-day retreat in Kansas City, MO) are covered by APWA National.

What topics are covered in the two-day retreat in Kansas City?

- Introduction to APWA
- Defining Leadership
- Exploring Ethics
- Proactive Thinking
- Negotiation Skills
- Presentation Pointers
- Leading Change
- Time Management
- Media Relations

Whom can I contact if I have questions about the Academy?

For more information about the Emerging Leaders Academy, please contact Brian Sullivan at 800-848-2792 or bsullivan@apwa.net.

