

Appalachian Leadership Institute!

Here are the basics – no cost unless travel is above \$500 per session and occasional dinners on your own (\$500 travel stipend supplied for each session).

The 2019-2020 Appalachian Fellowship will run October 2019 - July 2020 - Applications are due June 1, 2019

The Appalachian Leadership Institute is designed to equip a diverse network of leaders with the skills, expertise, and vision to address Appalachia's most pressing issues and increase our Region's economic competitiveness.

Limited to 40 Fellows annually - chosen via a competitive application process and each class will include representatives from each of the thirteen state in the ARC footprint to reflect the region's diverse economic development challenges, opportunities, and strategies.

Highly qualified applicants in the program will have a demonstrated commitment to their community and an interest in economic and community development.

Application:

<https://appalachianleadershipinstitute.applytojob.com/apply/ZofqOGUnG5/Appalachian-Leadership-Institute-Class-Of-20192020>

- Completed Essay Questions (See below)
- Resume/CV
- Letter of Support from Applicant's Employer
- Three (3) Letters of Recommendation describing the applicant's skills and experience relevant to the Appalachian Leadership Institute mission.

Please answer the following essay questions in one document. Answers should be limited to 300 words each.

- Why are you interested in the Appalachian Leadership Institute and what tools/knowledge do you hope to bring back to your community? What specific skills/knowledge do you hope to contribute to the Appalachian Leadership Institute program?
- Describe a successful project that you have led to improve your community, organization, or region.
- What are the greatest strengths and most pressing challenges and liabilities facing your community? How does your leadership bridge the gap between your community's strengths and challenges?

- When you are confronted with people, ideas, or experiences different from your own, how do you interact with them?
- What one aspect of Appalachia would you most like to have an impact on and why?
- Share anything else you would like ARC and the Appalachian Leadership Institute team to know about you. This can include awards or recognition, additional examples of your engagement and leadership, or any other elements not captured in your previous responses.

Seven Sessions each lasting 3-4 days. Some sessions will begin midday on the first day, allowing for travel to the session the morning of the first day. Other sessions will begin at 8:00 am the first day, requiring travel anytime the day before the session. All sessions will adjourn midday on the last day, allowing for travel the afternoon of the final day.

Attendance to all sessions is encouraged, but participants are allowed an excused absence of 20 hours (or one full session) with the exception of Orientation. **The entire Orientation session is mandatory** and if an applicant has a conflict with the Orientation dates, you are asked to wait until a future year to apply.

There is no registration fee for fellows selected to participate in the Appalachian Leadership Institute and the program covers:

- Lodging
- Breakfast and lunch during each session
- Dinners will be on your own and at the participant's expense, unless there is a reception or event scheduled
- The program covers up to \$500 in reimbursed travel expenses for each of the seven sessions.

Fellows will learn how to:

- Design effective economic development project proposals
- Integrate community assets into long-lasting economic development strategies
- Identify resources available to spur economic development
- Locate and access investment capital from a variety of public and private sources
- Prepare competitive applications for public grant opportunities
- Use expanded leadership skills to create strong coalitions
- **It includes:**
 - Travel and participation cost to attend all sessions
 - Appalachian Leadership Institute Certificate from the Appalachian Regional Commission and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville

- o Access to a world class network of peers and other experts across Appalachia

FAQ'S

+ Q: What is the purpose/mission of the Appalachian Leadership Institute?

A: The Appalachian Leadership Institute is designed to equip a diverse network of leaders with the skills, expertise, and vision to address Appalachia's most pressing issues and increase our Region's economic competitiveness.

+ Q: Am I eligible to apply for the Appalachian Leadership Institute?

A: To be eligible, applicants must live or work in one of the 420 counties of the Appalachian Region, as designated by Congress. [There is a map and list of counties here.](#) Highly qualified applicants in the program will have a demonstrated commitment to their community and an interest in economic and community development.

+ Q: Do I have to work in economic development to apply?

A: No. The Appalachian Leadership Institute is for people who live and/or work in Appalachia and are passionate about helping their communities thrive. That could mean you work in economic development or it could mean you are an entrepreneur, teacher, elected official, or someone who is engaged in their community through volunteer or non-profit work. **The most important quality in an applicant is that you are engaged and ready to learn how to help your community.**

+ Q: What if I don't have a resume or my career path has been non-traditional?

A: The Appalachian Leadership Institute is seeking a diverse pool of candidates from across the region. [Click here](#) for one resource with examples of resumes by industry, which might be helpful for skilled trades or non-traditional career paths. Another useful resume format option is the Functional Resume, which you can learn more about [here](#). If you have additional questions or need assistance, please contact leadership@arc.gov.

+ Q: How much does it cost to participate in the Appalachian Leadership Institute?

A: **There is no registration fee** for fellows selected to participate in the Appalachian Leadership Institute and the program covers lodging, as well as breakfast and lunch during each session. Dinners will be on your own and at the participant's expense, unless there is a reception or event scheduled. Additionally, **the program covers up to \$500 in reimbursed travel expenses for each of the seven sessions.**

+ Q: How long is each session? How long should I expect to be away from work for each session?

A: Sessions will be three to four days. Some sessions will begin midday on the first day, allowing for travel to the session the morning of the first day. Other sessions will begin at 8:00 am the first day, requiring travel anytime the day before the session. All sessions will adjourn midday on the last day, allowing for travel the afternoon of the final day.

+ Q: If selected, am I required to attend every session?

A: Attendance to all sessions is encouraged, but participants are allowed an excused absence of 20 hours (or one full session) with the exception of Orientation. The entire Orientation session is mandatory and if an applicant has a conflict with the Orientation dates, we ask you wait until a future year to apply.