

Disability Leadership Academy



Disability Leadership Academy will begin on February 18, 2017. People with disabilities who are 18 or older can apply for this intensive leadership course.

Uncovering our Power as People with Disabilities

The Disability Leadership Academy offers training and practical experience for people with disabilities who want to affect public policy and create social change within communities.

Through interactive workshops and team work, people with disabilities will uncover their physical and political power to create change in the communities.

Skills for Community Change... And Beyond!

Leadership Academy graduates will advance their skills in project planning, event organizing, navigating political systems, building community and more.

What we will do:

The academy has two parts:

1. Training Sessions
2. Community Engagement Project

Most sessions include both training sessions and work on the community engagement project.

During **training sessions**, participants will learn disability history and culture, advocacy and organizing skills, and skills for working in teams.

During **project work**, participants will collaborate on a policy impact or systems change project that the group designs and implements.

Session Schedule

Sessions run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays:

1. February 18
2. March 4
3. March 11
4. March 25
5. April 8
6. April 22
7. May 6
8. May 20
9. June 3
10. June 17

Participants are expected to attend every session.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Am I qualified?

You are qualified if you:

- have a disability
- are at least 18 years old *AND*
- want to create change in your community

YOU are qualified!

2. Do I have the right kind of disability?

The Disability Leadership Academy is for people with ALL kinds of disabilities. Disabilities can be physical (like moving hearing or seeing), mental health, intellectual learning, and more. If you aren't sure if your disability "counts," call us!

3. Do I have the right experience?

NO experience needed! The Leadership Academy is about learning. If you want to learn about being more involved in your community, please consider applying!

4. Will I get accepted?

We have a limited number of spots, so unfortunately we cannot accept everyone who applies. Everyone may apply and we hope you do!

5. How do I apply?

Please complete a Disability Leadership Academy application by accessing the links in the left hand column on this webpage. Return the completed application to Joanne Johnson, disability program coordinator, at her email joanne.johnson@portlandoregon.gov or by mailing it to her at:

Disability Program - Leadership Academy

Attn: Joanne Johnson

1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 110

Portland, Oregon 97204

Joanne may also be reached by phone at 503-823-9970.

Please note: If you have already applied for the Disability Leadership Academy, you do NOT need to reapply. We do ask that previous applicants review the Academy session dates and let us know if you can no longer participate. If you would like to share updated information, you may do so by using the contact information above.