

Teacher Leader Academy

2023-2024 FAQs

What is the Teacher Leader Academy?

The Teacher Leader Academy offers an intensive, cutting-edge program for school and district teacher leaders designed to equip them with the knowledge, skills, and mindset necessary to navigate the complexities of their field. The Academy takes an innovative approach to leadership development by focusing on the latest research, best practices, and real-world experiences. It provides a comprehensive curriculum that covers critical topics such as leading change, utilizing resources, and building effective community relationships while challenging participants to think critically, analyze complex problems, and develop creative solutions. Participants are encouraged to develop their personal leadership style, drawing on their strengths and values to become authentic and effective teacher leaders.

The Teacher Leader Academy's faculty is made up of renowned scholars and successful practitioners from across the county. These faculty bring their expertise and knowledge to bear on the program, ensuring that participants receive a well-rounded experience that is grounded in the latest research and practical experience. Overall, the innovative high-level Teacher Leader Academy provides teachers with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to succeed in today's fast-paced, ever-changing world. Participants emerge from the program as highly skilled and effective teacher leaders who are equipped to lead with courage, vision, and purpose.

How are teachers selected to participate in the Teacher Leader Academy?

Teacher leaders include K-12 teachers, central office project facilitators, counselors, psychologists, etc., and may apply from school districts, charter school organizations, private school organizations, and micro-schools. Qualities of teacher applicants include high-level classroom practitioners, active engagement in the profession, passion and commitment to excellence, and readiness to re-imagine the profession. Interested teachers must complete a written application, which includes three short answer responses. Supervisors must also complete a Leadership Behavior Grid. Both the application and the Leadership Behavior Grid must be submitted by the applicant prior to the due date. A review committee will carefully screen all applicants to select a cohort of up to 40 participants.

What is my total time commitment to the program?

The Teacher Leader Academy course sessions are held once monthly from October through June as follows: Thursday afternoon (4:30 pm - 7:30 pm) and Saturday (8:00 am - 4:00 pm). The Completion Ceremony is an evening event held in the Fall. 2023-2024 Academy dates have been *tentatively* scheduled as follows:

- September 14, 2023 - Orientation
- October 18 & 21, 2023
- November 16 & 18, 2023
- November 29, 2023 - Experiential Learning
- December 13/14, 2023 - Summit
- January 6, 2024 - Capstone Workshop
- January 18 & 20, 2024
- February 22 & 24, 2024
- March 21 & 23, 2024
- April 6, 2024 - Capstone Workshop
- April 18 & 20, 2024
- May 9 & 11, 2024
- Fall 2024 (TBD) - Completion Ceremony

**Academy dates/times are subject to change depending on faculty and venue availability.*

Where are classes held?

Classes are held at North Las Vegas City Hall, which is located at 2250 Las Vegas Boulevard North, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030.

Does the program have any out-of-pocket expenses for participants?

The total value of the Teacher Leader Academy program is over \$17,000 per participant. However, through the support of donors and grantors from the public and private sectors, the Leadership Institute of Nevada is able to cover the majority of costs for each attendee. The remaining enrollment fees and course costs (class materials, books, meals, etc.) total \$3,000 for each Teacher Leader, which may be paid in part, or full, by schools, districts, employers, and/or participants.



* For a limited time only, scholarships will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, which may reduce the total participant expenses to \$750.

What is the Capstone Project?

Teachers who participate in the Academy must complete a capstone project, which enables participants to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during the Academy. Capstone projects are grounded in current challenges or problems of practice in Nevada public education and are completed in small teams of 3-5 teachers. Participants work on various components of the capstone project throughout the Academy.

Will I receive credit for participating in the Academy?

Teachers selected to participate in the Academy accrue hours toward state recertification through the Nevada Department of Education, and Clark County School District participants may accrue hours one a one-to-one basis toward their Professional Growth Plan (PGP). Please contact the human resources department related to your district/agency for additional information.

For additional information, please contact:

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