

Generation Next Nonprofit Leadership Academy

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Where can I get more information on the program?

A. Your question may be answered in the FAQs below, and please read the application carefully for further information. If you need additional assistance, please call 602-496-0500 or e-mail nonprofit@asu.edu.

Q. How do I apply?

A. Applications can be downloaded from the ASU Lodestar Center Web site. [Click here](#) for a PDF of the application.

Q. If I am a recent graduate of the American Humanics program or the Public Allies program, is Gen Next right for me?

A. AH and PA are both programs to introduce the nonprofit sector to future leaders and give them skills to begin a career in the sector. Gen Next takes your professional development to the next level by providing the knowledge, skills and resources needed to advance to a leadership position in the nonprofit community. Participants of Gen Next should all have experience working in nonprofits, although the program does not set a minimum or maximum number of years experience required.

Q. If I am in the MNpS program (master's degree), or a recent graduate with a master's degree, is Gen Next right for me?

A. Gen Next is a "leadership program," designed specifically for emerging nonprofit leaders. The program will provide participants with advanced knowledge, but will go beyond the academic to relate to real people, problems and solutions. As such, Gen Next is complementary to the MNpS master's program through the application of leadership principles and engagement in the nonprofit community.

Q. If I am in the Nonprofit Management Institute (NMI), or a recent graduate of NMI, is Gen Next right for me?

A. Gen Next is a "leadership program," designed specifically for emerging nonprofit leaders. The curriculum will not go into the detail that NMI workshops provide on the practical aspects of nonprofit management. Rather, it will focus on developing the leadership skills nonprofit professionals need and engaging them with resources in the nonprofit community.

Q. Will you consider applicants from outside the Phoenix metropolitan area?

A. Living and/or working in the Valley is not a requirement. However, program days are scheduled at locations around the Valley, and attendance is mandatory.

Q. Can more than one person from my organization apply?

A. Generation Next is an individual professional development opportunity for emerging nonprofit leaders. Any and all qualified individuals from your organization are encouraged to apply.

Q. How much does Gen Next cost?

A. The Generation Next program fee of \$695 covers all program costs including lunches and program materials. This fee may be paid all or in part by your employer. Monthly payment plans are available for those requesting them. Also, a \$10 application fee is required.

Q. Are scholarships available?

A. The ASU Lodestar Center is also pleased to offer a limited number of partial scholarships that will be awarded for Generation Next. The purpose of the scholarships is to afford access to this leadership opportunity to those who otherwise would not be able to participate. The scholarship award will cover all but \$200 of the total cost. If interested in applying for a partial scholarship, please submit a Letter of Interest with your application. Your letter should indicate what it would mean to you and your organization to participate in Generation Next, and how you plan to use the information and knowledge gained through the program in your organization. Please also include your organization's annual operating budget. We remind you that the requests for scholarships will likely exceed the number available – and the decision to award opportunities will be based on the criteria listed above and your letter.

Q. What is the time commitment, and how long are the program days?

A. Gen Next program days are the second Friday of the month and are scheduled primarily between 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. This program requires a significant amount of time and commitment in order to get the full benefit of the experience. Many of the Valley's top businesses and community leaders present at Gen Next program days, so failing to attend even one class is a significant missed opportunity. Therefore, participants must attend all 9 program days to graduate. Participants are asked to be relieved from their work duties on these days. There will be group projects and opportunities for engagement between program days, however, the program has been designed with the time limitations of busy professionals in mind.

Q. What is the schedule for Gen Next?

A. Program days run from approximately 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and are subject to change. All programming takes place in the Phoenix metro area:

- Orientation – Thursday, August 12, 2010 (5 – 7 p.m.)
- Program Day 1 – August 20, 2010
- Program Day 2 – September 10, 2010
- Program Day 3 - October 8, 2010
- Program Day 4 - November 12, 2010
- Program Day 5 - December 10, 2010
- Program Day 6 - January 14, 2011
- Program Day 7 - February 11, 2011
- Program Day 8 - March 11, 2011
- Program Day 9 - April 8, 2011
- Presentations and Graduation - May 13, 2011
- Group Project (estimated time commitment 20-30 hours)

Q. What is the curriculum of Gen Next?

A. Gen Next is a fusion of leading-edge thinking for the nonprofit sector with established leadership principles. The curriculum for Gen Next will draw from local, national and international thought leaders on the trajectory of the sector and the role of emerging leaders. Participants will be challenged to examine their leadership style and will graduate the program emboldened by new skills, knowledge and resources. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to network with other professionals, making connections that will serve them long into the future.

Q. What are the topics for the program days?

A. The program days focus on developing the skills needed to be effective leaders, in addition to the exploring the critical issues facing the nonprofit sector. Each day is formatted with both presentation and interaction to maximize the engagement and learning experience. Examples of topics to be covered on program days are:

- State of the economy and the impact on nonprofits
- Advocacy and public policy; government relations
- Analysis of issues and critical thinking
- Group and meeting facilitation
- Board governance
- Resource development
- Social entrepreneurship
- Nonprofit leadership and ethics
- Diversity and cross-cultural communication
- Community outreach; strengthening communities
- Communications, marketing, branding and public relations for nonprofits
- Charting your own leadership path; continuing professional development; setting goals
- And many more...

Participants will also have the benefit of attending the ASU Lodestar Center's annual fall nonprofit conference on sustainability strategies.

Q. Who will teach the classes?

A. Program days will involve a wide spectrum of speakers and panelists. University professors, practitioner-instructors, community leaders and many others will play a role in providing a multi-faceted learning experience.