



What is the Leadership Academy?



Founded in 2006, the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy of the State Bar of Georgia is a program for young lawyers who are interested in developing their leadership skills as well as learning more about their profession, their communities and their state.

The Leadership Academy counts more than 500 alumni. Those alumni members include solo practitioners, judicial law clerks, partners in large and small law firms, assistant district attorneys, public defenders, nonprofit lawyers, ADR specialists and in-house counsel for Fortune 500 companies. The benefits of having a friend and legal resource in practically every corner of the state and in any practice area cannot be overestimated.

Who Should Apply?

YLD members who have a history of involvement and leadership in their communities, offices and/or profession; who want to become more involved in the YLD and State

Bar; and, who want to network with state and national leaders and hear their perspectives on effective lawyering and leadership should apply.

How Will the Pandemic Affect the Leadership Academy?

A primary component of each year's Leadership Academy is in-person meetings, networking and socializing because, through these opportunities, our participants form strong personal connections with attorneys from across the state. This allows the participants not only to expand their personal networks but also serves the entire YLD—and State Bar—by building a stronger, more connected attorney base across the state. However, in view of the current public health crisis, these valuable in-person sessions may no longer prove safe, advisable or comfortable for many participants in the coming Bar year.

The State Bar is committed to the health and safety of its members and staff. As such, the YLD, Leadership Academy Committee and host venue will continue to monitor the pandemic situation in and around Georgia leading up to and during the 2022 class year, and will endeavor to comply with, policies, guidance and orders relating to the pandemic issued by the Supreme Court of Georgia, CDC, local, state, and federal government, and the State Bar.

Programming for the planned sessions will be adjusted as necessary to strive to ensure all participants can participate

safely throughout the program. We set out our hoped-for programming for the 2022 class on page 4, but some of the adjustments that may be made (as necessary) could include: moving CLE sessions to video conferences, shifting networking or happy hour events outdoors, decreasing the number of attendees per event, or dividing the class into smaller sections for limited in-person events. Various other changes may prove necessary, but the Leadership Academy Committee will provide updates and changes as soon as possible prior to and throughout the 2022 class year.

The Leadership Academy Committee has also approved a change to the tuition and fee structure for the coming year, detailed further on page 3, recognizing that many participants may not feel comfortable sharing a hotel room or staying in a hotel for sessions held in different cities. Finally, in the event that the Leadership Academy must be cancelled entirely for year 2022 due to the pandemic, all tuition fees paid will be reimbursed. The YLD and Leadership Academy Committee look forward to working with the class of 2022 to find creative ways to ensure that this year's experience remains an enriching and valuable opportunity.

What If I Have Applied Before?

If you meet the criteria in the Who Should Apply section, we encourage you to apply again. We have far more qualified candidates apply each year than we can accept for

that year's class so you should not be discouraged if you have previously applied and not been selected.

What Should I Know Before I Apply?

Participating in the Leadership Academy requires a commitment of time and resources from each participant; however, alumni tell us that their experience in the program and the rewards of their participation greatly outweigh any sacrifice they make to attend.

Participants are selected through a competitive application process and are chosen from every corner of the state and every imaginable practice area. Recommendations from employers, judges and Leadership Academy alumni are strongly encouraged and considered.

The YLD Leadership Academy Class of 2021 begins in January 2022 and meets once a month for six months. Participants who attend all six sessions will receive 12 CLE credit hours, including 1 professionalism, 1 ethics and 3 trial. Those without perfect attendance will only receive CLE credit for the sessions they attend. CLE credit will be turned in for participants after session six in June 2022. Participants must attend at least four of the six sessions to graduate, be recognized at the graduation ceremony and be considered alumni of the program.

What is the Cost of Tuition?

The tuition options for participation in the 2021 Leadership Academy are listed below. Tuition covers all CLE fees, program costs and hotel accommodations for overnight sessions (if selected), and most meals. Transportation to and from sessions is not provided.

Tuition Option	Includes	Cost
Full Tuition with Double-Occupancy Hotel Stays	CLE fees, program administration costs, meals and hotel accommodations for all multi-day sessions, sharing a room with another class member	\$1,100
Full Tuition with Single-Occupancy Hotel Stays	CLE fees, program administration costs, meals, and hotel accommodations for all multi-day sessions, in a private hotel room without a roommate	\$1,990
Full Tuition with No Hotel Stays	CLE fees, program administration costs, meals for those participants not planning to stay overnight for any of the multi-day sessions	\$300

Please note that for sessions held in conjunction with other State Bar or YLD meetings, there may be additional costs not covered by your tuition if you elect to attend additional CLEs, meals, receptions, etc., offered through the larger Bar meetings, but which are not specifically included in the Leadership Academy programming. All Leadership Academy participants are encouraged to take advantage of attending these other Bar events to supplement the Leadership Academy programming, should such events continue during 2022.

Payment plans as well as full and partial scholarships are offered to participants on the basis of need. To be considered for a scholarship, applicants must also complete the [scholarship application](#). Selection of applicants is independent of those who apply for a scholarship.

No refunds will be given to those electing a hotel-stay inclusive option if the participant chooses not to utilize the hotel room for each session.

Why Should My Employer Support My Participation?



Build Networks

Meet judges, clients, potential clients and fellow lawyers who can refer you business; know who to call when you need to find local counsel to better serve your clients. The networking and business-development opportunities are limitless.



Get Recognized

Alumni have gone on to be elected to the State Bar Board of Governors, recognized in the *Daily Report's* "On the Rise-10 to Watch," named as *Atlanta Magazine's* "Rising Stars" and *Georgia Trend's* "40 Under 40" and a variety of other accolades.



Quality Programming

The YLD Leadership Academy of the State Bar of Georgia is a nationally recognized program. In 2008, the Leadership Academy was awarded first place in the nation in the Minority Project Category during the American Bar Association YLD Awards of Achievement Program.



Earn 12 CLE Credit Hours

For the 2021 program, participants will have the opportunity to earn a full year's worth of CLE credit, including ethics, trial and professionalism. See the schedule below.

Schedule*

SESSION 1

Jan. 7-8, 2022 | Atlanta, GA

Becoming a Leader in the YLD and State Bar

CLE credit: 2 general, including 1 ethics

SESSION 4

April 8-9, 2022 | Dahlonega, GA

Foundations for Leadership

CLE credit: 2 general, including 1 professionalism

SESSION 2

Feb. 2, 2022 | Atlanta, GA

Lawyers as Leaders in State Government

CLE credit: 3 general, including 1 trial

SESSION 5

May 13-15, 2022 | Augusta, GA

Serving Your Community

CLE credit: 2 general, including 1 trial

SESSION 3

March 18-20, 2022 | Chattanooga, TN

Networking Across State Lines

CLE credit: 2 general hours, including 1 trial

SESSION 6

June 3-5, 2022 | Fernandina Beach, FL

Moving Forward in Leadership

CLE credit: 1 general

*Please note that the programming is subject to change, particularly in view of the current public health risk.

COVID-19 Waiver of Liability and Assumption of Risk

Under Georgia law, there is no liability for an injury or death of an individual entering State Bar of Georgia premises, or premises occupied or leased by the State Bar of Georgia if such injury or death results from the inherent risks of contracting COVID-19. Attendees and guests are assuming this risk by entering such premises. Any person entering

the premises waives all civil liability against the State Bar of Georgia for any injuries caused by the inherent risk associated with contracting COVID-19 at public gatherings, except for gross negligence, willful and wanton misconduct, reckless infliction of harm, or intentional infliction of harm, by the State Bar of Georgia.

Deadlines

All [applications](#), including [scholarship applications](#), must be completed by Friday, Oct. 15, 2021. No extensions will be granted.

Letter(s) of recommendation are optional but *strongly* encouraged. Applicants may also submit additional information (not to exceed one page). Please email these items to yld@gabar.org by Friday, Oct. 15, 2021. No extensions will be granted.

Participants will be selected by the Leadership Academy Committee and will be notified of their selection by Friday, Oct. 29, 2021, via email. Once notified, participants must reply indicating the acceptance of their invitation. A non-refundable deposit of half the selected tuition cost (less scholarship, if awarded) must be received no later than Dec. 1, 2021. The other half will be due by March 1, 2022. Any invitations not accepted by Dec. 1, 2021, will be forfeited.

Applicants must be in good standing with the State Bar and meet the requirements to be a young lawyer as defined in the [bylaws](#).

“When accepting a great opportunity to practice out of state there generally comes the presumption that you will not be able to participate in the State Bar or foster great foundational relationships with Georgia-based colleagues; however, through the Young Lawyers Division Leadership Academy I am happy to say my presumption was all wrong! The Leadership Academy is a great opportunity to build upon your leadership skills to contribute to the state and State Bar, even as a Georgia barred attorney practicing out of state. During my time in the Leadership Academy, I learned more about the numerous resources available at the State Bar than I knew even while I was practicing in state. Traveling throughout the state and seeing how your colleagues are working in their communities inspires you to become a better attorney and colleague that assists in their efforts. It is a worthwhile opportunity to gain some in-depth knowledge to further develop as an attorney and develop relationships with attorneys throughout the entire state of Georgia. I’m so grateful to have made the commitment to participate and I would wholly encourage anyone to apply for the next class!”

Christina Calloway, Class of 2019

“The Leadership Academy was an incredible experience for a young lawyer. We had opportunities to network with fellow young lawyers in many different areas of the law—from government to big law and everything in between. Our trips to D.C. and Vidalia offered us valuable CLEs that broadened our perspectives in the law. During that time, we were able to speak with judges, the attorney general and several established attorneys who provided us with wonderful advice as young lawyers. The Leadership Academy left me with great friends and associates which is extremely valuable for a young lawyer navigating the legal field. I have even referred clients to several of members of my Leadership Academy class. This was a great opportunity that I encourage every young lawyer to seek.”

Aaron Snipes, Class of 2019

Testimonials