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The LEAD Maryland Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and, in partnership with the University of Maryland Extension, provides a curriculum-based statewide LEAD Maryland Fellowship Program in collaboration with numerous funders, supporters, and partners.



2-Year Fellowship (Class size 20-25 leaders)



11 In-Person Seminars (Each seminar is 2-4 days)



31 Days of Instruction and Field Visits



12 Days of Educational Travel Experence

Public Issues Education

Land Use: planning, zoning and managed growth; land conservation and preservation

Water Resources Management: water use; water quality and watershed restoration; strategies related to climate change; aquaculture and seafood

Food Systems: resiliency; sustainability; food access, security, and safety; appreciating Maryland farms

Economic Impact: agriculture's contributions; policies and markets that affect agriculture; collaboration among agencies, organizations, and farmers; Port of Baltimore

Government: structure, policy development, political process, legislation, regulation, and advocacy

Leadership Skills & Personal Growth

Leadership Skills: meeting management, principles of leadership, vision & mission, teambuilding, community service, board leadership, and ethics.

Personal Growth: confidence, dining and networking etiquette; collaborative problem-solving, critical thinking, team building; practicing diversity, equity, and inclusion; application of self-assessments such as Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), Emotional Intelligence, and leveraging personal strengths; conflict resolution and finding common ground

Communication Skills

This program covers a range of communication skills: presentations, prepared and extemporaneous speeches of introduction, influence, public testimony; media interviews, and telling your stories; civil discourse, community engagement; using technology for communications (podcasts, webinars, videos, and Al); parliamentary procedure, agricultural and natural resources literacy

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