The 2020 Ascending Leadership Certificate Program

The step from middle to senior management is a critical one.

New senior managers often find themselves struggling through "on-the-job" training while trying to survive in very fast-paced and demanding environments. Through our Ascending Leadership Certificate Program, rising leaders can prepare for this shift.

As a NELI fellow, you will:

- Examine how performance expectations and requirements change when moving up.
- Learn best practices in managing organizational systems and business functions and assessing opportunities for organizational growth.
- Explore techniques for leading effectively while working with all levels of your organization.
- Identify goals for career development and determine how to best leverage opportunities to prepare for increasing levels of responsibility.
- Strengthen and broaden professional networks.

Application Deadline
October 16, 2020

Who Should Apply
Middle managers with at least three years of experience. Consultants in the field of nonprofit management are also eligible.

Tuition $2,300
Scholarships are available.

Website

Contact
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What attracted me to NELI was the opportunity to interact with other professionals at the same point in their career as I am.

Because of NELI, I’m much more aware of my own strengths. I connect differently and understand deeply that everyone’s communication style is different.

I was empowered to do the work that I do and put forth even more of an effort to be a good leader.

–Michelle Strong, Program Manager
Project HOME
Ascending Leadership Certificate Program

NELI for me was perfect timing. The program seemed to be designed exactly where I was headed. NELI empowered me to implement ideas I had and gave me the confidence to ask for what I want. I feel more confident in taking the lead. I learned the value of investing in others. Even if my own work is temporarily put on the back burner, it is definitely worth it to build up the team around me.

–A.J. Adams  
Workforce Development Program Administrator  
City of Philadelphia

Leadership Styles and Their Impact on Team Development: Understand your personal style and the strengths and challenges you bring so that you can effectively create and lead a productive team.

Designing and Managing the Strategic Planning Process for Your Organization: Gain the skills to design, lead, and monitor a strategic planning process that engages your community and ensures maximum impact on your constituencies.

Financial Planning and Management: Expand your ability to read nonprofit financial statements and develop organizational budgets. Learn to project revenue and expenses, allocate common costs and overhead, deal with restricted funding, and use advanced financial planning tools appropriately.

Understanding and Leading from Your Strengths: Gain valuable insights into the unique strengths you bring to any work situation. Explore new ways you can synthesize and apply these strengths to add value to your organization.

Delegating Effectively for Leadership Development: Lead and empower your team toward greater professional performance. Learn to vary your leadership style to better develop your followers’ competence and confidence.

Leveraging Diversity from the Inside Out: Through the exploration and application of several user-friendly tools, participants will support their abilities to be effective diversity-competent organizational leaders.

Recruiting and Retaining A Diverse Staff: Diverse organizations are more productive, innovative, flexible and are better able to serve their consumers. Learn best practices in how to recruit diverse staff and retain them through the development of an inclusive organizational culture.

Assessing Opportunities for Organizational Growth: Help make better strategic decisions by learning to assess new growth opportunities and by comparing the benefits with the hidden and obvious costs to the organization.

Moving up to a Senior Leadership Position: What Does it Take? Meet alumni of the Executive Leadership Certificate and the Ascending Leadership Certificate programs to hear their personal journeys that led them into executive positions. They offer wisdom and guidance to help Ascending Leaders on their paths.