

YOUR LEADERSHIP WHIDBEY JOURNEY

Thank you for your interest in Leadership Whidbey, designed to develop informed, connected, and committed community leaders. The program will assist participants in acquiring a broader understanding of the complex issues facing Whidbey Island and build on leadership skills and relationships to greater impact our community.

Leadership Whidbey is a program of Skagit Valley College under the umbrella of the SVC Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Leadership Whidbey applicants are expected to be highly motivated, committed to being involved in the community, and interested in continuing their leadership journey by expanding their skills and connections. Applicants must live or work on Whidbey Island. **Potential participants are encouraged to contact our Program Manager at connect@leadershipwhidbey.com to discuss their interest in the program and answer your questions, prior to applying.** For more information: www.leadershipwhidbey.org

CURRICULUM

The 7-month program begins in October 2024 and ends in May 2025. The class meets one to two times each month. Each educational day is experience-based and includes virtual or in-person meetings with local leaders and subject matter experts, individual and group activities, and occasional site visits/tours. Participants are expected to attend all sessions and to engage fully in a team project. The program's schedule of dates is posted on our website and listed on the application. If you are unable to commit to the schedule, please consider applying in a future year. Participants who successfully complete the program may earn 7 academic credits in Leadership from Skagit Valley College.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Participants will be selected based on criteria including leadership in their chosen field and/or volunteer activities, community involvement, desire to improve personal leadership skills, and commitment to effecting positive change on Whidbey Island. Because diversity is a core value of our program, we strive to select participants who will reflect a diversity of age, employment, ethnic, professional, and geographic backgrounds. Leadership Whidbey does not discriminate against applicants and participants based on gender, race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, or occupation. Applications are handled in confidence.

PERSONAL COMMITMENT: Leadership Whidbey participants are expected to attend all sessions. In addition, Community Adaptive Learning Lab participation is required, including regular meetings and work sessions outside of program days. Participants are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire session. Participants may lose the opportunity to earn college credit and/or graduate from the program due to non-participation in expected activities. Tuition is NOT refundable. Participants agree to support and follow all ground rules as developed by the class, their teams, and all policies and requirements of the program.

POST-GRADUATE COMMITMENT TO WHIDBEY ISLAND

Graduation from Leadership Whidbey signifies the beginning of an ongoing opportunity as a member of the Leadership Whidbey graduate network. Our Alumni group, headed by a committee of graduates, may host networking events, educational programs and forums, and provide community service opportunities to facilitate continuing education and network-building among alumni. Alumni are encouraged to serve on planning committees, commissions, boards, and task forces, and to consider serving in elected or appointed offices.