



Calling all Interns for the 2025-2026 Region VIII Leadership Academy!

The Region VIII Leadership Academy (R8LA) is open to all interested ASCLS members seeking to gain leadership skills and learn more about ASCLS and the work behind the scenes. The R8LA begins with classes meeting September 11th - 14th in Soda Springs, Idaho (located in one of the 5 states in Region VIII – Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado and Utah). With each class, a team building activity will be planned for one afternoon during the initial 4 days. The opening days are a time to get to know each other, attend leadership sessions, and to brainstorm a project that will benefit the society. After opening days, the Academy turns to Saturday morning video conferencing with faculty members presenting many excellent sessions. Topics covered during the Academy year include: *history of the profession, communication and leadership styles, project planning, team building, parliamentary procedure, emotional intelligence, convention planning, advocacy, networking, presentation skills, stress management/burnout, mentoring and coaching, basic how-to for leadership in ASCLS, strategic planning, and situational leadership*. In the spring, the Interns are asked to share information about their project and the Academy at their state spring conference. The Interns do a final presentation of their project at graduation during the Region VIII Annual Council meeting. This meeting coincides with the Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) which in 2026 will be held in St. Louis, Missouri.

We are now looking for motivated candidates for our next class! Do you have a desire to further develop your leadership skills? Are you considering running for elected office in your state Society? Has your leadership potential been recognized by constituent society officers, board members or others in leadership

roles? Have you demonstrated leadership potential by participating in leadership activities within constituent society organizations? If you answered YES to any of these questions and you are currently a member of ASCLS, we want YOU! If you are interested in participating in the R8LA, please contact Abbey Wichman, a_k_ahlgren@msn.com, or go to the Region VIII website, R8LA information:

Region VIII Leadership Academy Schedule

- ▲ September 11 - 14, 2025: Leadership Academy Class of 2025-2026 convenes for Opening Days, Soda Springs, ID
- ▲ Advocacy Symposium (Virtual Attendance): October 20th, 2025
- ▲ Zoom Conference calls (9-11am): 10/18/25; 11/15/25; 1/10/26; 2/7/26; 3/7/26; 6/6/26
- ▲ Spring Conference (location and dates TBD by each state)
- ▲ 2026 Joint Annual Meeting (In-person preferred): 6/27 – 7/2/26, St. Louis, MO

