

Executive Leadership Institute

ELI

PROGRAM

**A Professional Development Program
for Senior-Level Public Servants**



In partnership with

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
Center for Social Justice
Research, Teaching & Service



ELI provides candidates with the unique opportunity to interact with prominent individuals from public and private sectors. Past executive roundtable leaders include mayors, city and county managers, public administration faculty, NFBPA Board members and past presidents, and other highly respected public, corporate, and civic leaders.



TUITION COSTS

Tuition for the Executive Leadership Institute is \$11,360 which covers the cost for instruction, venues, and registration fees for NFBPA's annual conference (FORUM). The total transportation and lodging costs for all program sessions and the annual conference are not included in the above fees. Tuition costs must be paid by December 1st.

Past ELI graduates have employed various strategies for securing sponsorship for participation in the program. The overwhelming majority of participants are sponsored by their local and state government employers. Others successfully supported their participation in the Institute through a combination of corporate, foundation, and personal funds.

ABOUT ELI

Understanding the array of critical problems faced by cities, counties, and states – the need for talented, energetic, creative, resourceful, and capable executives from diverse backgrounds is increasingly present. ELI was established to sharpen the skills and capabilities of an elite core of managers and administrators who have already demonstrated superior achievement in their careers as assistant city managers, department heads, bureau/division chiefs, and the like.

This program is one of the few training institutes in the United States that offers a curriculum mixed with both academic-based theory and practitioner-based experience through partnerships with universities and cities throughout the country. The ability to compare the impacts of urban development, transportation policy, economic development strategies and other public policies in both a classroom setting and through on-site experiences is unique to ELI participants. Candidates also have an exceptional opportunity to interface with elected and appointed administrators from across the country who grapple with diverse public policy decisions daily, citizens who live in these communities, and universities that study and analyze public management application and theory.



THE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE was established in 1987 as a program dedicated to grooming managers for the rigors of executive positions in public service organizations.

ABOUT GEORGETOWN

Georgetown University's School of Continuing Studies (SCS) offers graduate programs in professional and liberal studies, more than 30 professional certificate programs, custom and corporate training and education, summer school and special programs, and the University's only part-time bachelor's program.

By pairing seasoned scholars and practitioners with innovative educational programming, SCS prepares participants with the skills needed to succeed in today's evolving business landscape.

Mission: To deliver a world-class, values-based education to a diverse array of communities and individuals throughout their academic and professional careers; to improve employability and develop workforces; and to contribute to building a civic-minded, well-informed, and globally aware society.

Vision: To transform the lives and careers of diverse lifelong learners by providing access to engaged and personalized liberal and professional education for all.



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WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The Executive Leadership Institute is designed for leaders upon whom elected and appointed officials rely on to carry out policies, implement programs, and solve problems. The program has been developed for middle and senior managers with particular preference on selecting persons who intend to pursue the position of city/ county manager or agency chief.

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

Upon selection, ELI candidates attend five Georgetown instructional sessions scheduled over a five-month period. Successful completion of the ELI curriculum requires attendance at all sessions. Most sessions will occur virtually, but applicants are expected to travel twice over the duration of the program: once to NFBPA's Annual Conference (FORUM) and once for an in-person session at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

*** Health and Wellness:** *All participants must agree to follow all Health and Wellness Guidelines during any in-person sessions. Individuals will need to comply with any health and safety rules set by NFBPA, Georgetown, Local Venues, and State and Local Governments. NFBPA will follow applicable federal, state and local laws, adapting program plans accordingly and sharing updates.*

THE ELI ELITE

A highly selective annual search is conducted to identify candidates with

- Strong academic training including a bachelor's degree (required) and a master's degree (preferred)
- Professional experience
- Strong written and analytic skills
- Demonstrated leadership experience
- Commitment to social responsibility
- Active membership within NFBPA is preferred.



THE CURRICULUM

Developed with the advice and counsel of current and former senior public administrators as well as faculty at one of the nation's most prestigious schools of public administration, the Institute curriculum is divided into major and minor topics around core competency areas within the public administration profession.

Core Curriculum areas may include:

- Resource Allocation & Financial Management
- Economic Development & Planning
- Public Policy Development & Analysis
- Organizational Development
- Civic Engagement
- Data Analytics & Technology
- Leadership

Upon completion of the program, ELI candidates will receive a Professional Certificate in Innovative Leadership in Public Administration - from the Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies.



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

July 6, 2026

Application Opens

September 1:

Application Deadline

September 15:

Candidates Notified

November 15:

Tuition Costs Due

December:

Virtual Orientation

January-April, 2027:

Monthly Virtual Modules

April 19-25, 2027:

In-Person NFBPA Conference
FORUM 2027: In person NFBPA
Conference in Seattle, WA

May:

In-Person Module #5 and
Graduation at Georgetown
University, Washington, DC

** Subject to change*

PARTNERS



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
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Complete an application here or visit www.nfbpa.org for more information.