



## NASLEE 2025 LEADERSHIP ACADEMY APPLICATION

NASLEE's Leadership Academy is an intensive professional development opportunity for state leaders of early childhood policy and improvement initiatives serving children prenatal to grade 3. Applicants may be located in a variety of state agencies. Please see the [NASLEE Leadership Academy Webpage](#) for more information. Applications are **due on Friday, December 6 by 6 pm EST** to Lori Connors-Tadros at [lctadros@nieer.org](mailto:lctadros@nieer.org) and cc Nicole Madore at [nicole.madore@maine.gov](mailto:nicole.madore@maine.gov)

### SCORING OF APPLICATIONS

Part 1 – 40 points | word counts and point totals are noted in brackets for each of the three questions.

Part 2 – 20 points | job-embedded capstone project and description.

Part 3 – 40 points | experience and background as reflected in applicant's resume/CV.

Interviews and references will further inform the decision-making process, along with cohort characteristics such as mix of individuals, geography, and roles.

### Part I: QUESTIONS FOR APPLICANTS [40 points]

1. Why do you want to be part of the NASLEE Leadership Academy? What goals do you have to improve your leadership effectiveness? [Up to 200 words; 15 points.]
2. Briefly describe how major early childhood policy and funding decisions are made in your office or agency and what role you have in informing and shaping these decisions. [Up to 500 words; 10 points]
3. Describe an example of when you exercised leadership to improve early childhood policy or programs. Please note what you were trying to accomplish, why you think you were successful or unsuccessful, and what you think you could have done differently. (Up to 500 words; 15 points)

### PART II. JOB-EMBEDDED CAPSTONE PROJECT [20 points – up to 500 words]

Each Leadership Academy fellow will complete a job-embedded capstone project by the conclusion of the Leadership Academy. The capstone project is intended to help you achieve a



personal goal in your current role, advance your growth as a leader and apply concepts and strategies from Academy meetings and coaching. [Note: you can view descriptions of previous job-embedded projects of the CEELo Leadership Academy fellows [here](#).]

1. Identify a problem you want to solve or a project within your current role that offers you an opportunity to apply the new leadership and management skills you will learn during the Leadership Academy.
2. How will the proposed project help you to expand and/or improve your leadership skills?
3. What result do you hope to achieve when your capstone project is implemented?

### **PART III. Experience and Background [40 points]**

**Please describe your current role and responsibilities.** Discuss how your background, education and experience has contributed to your leadership journey. Please note if you are currently pursuing a degree or other credential. [Up to 250 words; 20 points.]

**Resume** - Please attach your most current CV or resume. Reviewers will read your CV or resume to inform their understanding of your career progression and accomplishments to date. [20 points.]

**Agency Reference** - Please provide a professional reference from a colleague in your agency - for example, your supervisor, a colleague, a staff member you supervise. [no points]

Name:  
Relationship:  
Telephone:  
Email:

**Outside Reference** - Please provide a reference from a colleague outside the agency - preferably someone you have worked with to advance your vision for early childhood education.

Name:  
Relationship:  
Telephone:  
Email:



**Agency Organization Chart** - Please attach a current organizational chart for your agency or office. The diagram should clearly show where you are situated within your agency or you should provide a narrative sentence to provide that information.

**PART IV. APPLICANT COMMITMENTS [No points – however, completion is required]**

**Applicant Signature**

*NOTE: By my signature below, I confirm that I meet the requirements of NASLEE Leadership Academy applicants and commit to fully participating in the program.*

Applicant's Signature:

Print Name:

Date:

**Supervisor Signature**

*NOTE: Your supervisor's signature indicates permission to attend the intensive yearlong NASLEE Leadership Academy and to participate fully in all of its components, including out-of-state travel.*

Supervisor Signature:

Print Name:

Date:

**Agency Head Signature (e.g., superintendent, commissioner, Secretary)**

*NOTE: Your agency head's signature indicates support for your participation in the NASLEE Leadership Academy.*

Agency Head Signature:

Print Name:

Date:

