

PURPOSE

The Connect Florida Leadership Institute focuses on three primary areas:

1. **Personal development:** Programming focuses on leadership skills assessment and training in order to provide participants with a better understanding of their personal leadership styles and how they can use them to capitalize on Florida's strengths and address its challenges.
2. **Education:** Class members have the opportunity to connect with statewide experts in order to increase their knowledge of the issues impacting Florida.
3. **Coalition Building:** The Institute provides a unique opportunity to bond with young leaders from throughout the state.

In addition, one of the most critical elements of the program is the chance to spend valuable time interacting with other leaders from a variety of professions, philosophies, and geographies who represent Florida's diverse ethnic and racial composition. The program sessions provide ample experiences designed to facilitate the deepening of relationships among the classmates and thus extend the network of relationships that form the fabric of our statewide leadership.

CANDIDATES

- ◆ Ages 25-39;
- ◆ A commitment, motivation, and interest in serving Florida;
- ◆ A concern for Florida's welfare, demonstrated by past community and statewide activities;
- ◆ An identification of potential or existing occupational responsibilities that have significant influence on important issues facing the State, and
- ◆ A commitment to continued involvement in Connect Florida.

DATES AND LOCATIONS

Session I: Leadership: Theory into Action	October 5 – 7, 2017	Orlando
Session II: Learn the Key Issues	November 2 – 4, 2017	Pensacola
Session III: Know Your State	February 8 – 10, 2018	Tallahassee
Session IV: Making an Impact	April 12 – 14, 2018	Miami
Session V: Leadership Florida Annual Meeting	June 14 – 17, 2018	Sarasota

TUITION AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The tuition cost for each participant in Connect Florida is \$3,250 (not including lodging) and includes meals for all sessions at which attendance is required. It is expected that the employers and family of all participants understand and fully support the significant commitment of time away from home and office, as well as financial obligation, which participation in Connect Florida requires.

A very limited amount of funding is available for tuition scholarships for individuals who are accepted to the program and are not able to fully finance their participation solely from their employers' or personal resources.

Applications Due May 5, 2017