

Designed for early-career professionals, the FOCUS Emerging Leaders program offers the opportunity to strengthen your personal, professional and civic leadership skills, gain a deeper understanding of the inner workings of the St. Louis region and build connections with a diverse network of peers.

Since 2012, the program has trained more than 600 young professionals. Emerging Leaders is a great springboard to applying for other FOCUS leadership programs and pursuing leadership positions in your career and the community.

Who Should Apply

If you're an early-career professional who wants to gain a better understanding of yourself as a leader, of the St. Louis region, and how you can get involved to make our community stronger, you may be a great fit for Emerging Leaders.

Like all FOCUS programs, Emerging Leaders welcomes applicants from all backgrounds and sectors. Classes are selected to represent the diversity of the St. Louis region.

Graduates leave the program with an increased sense of engagement in the region, as well as the tools to take an active role as the next generation of St. Louis civic and professional leaders. You'll also become part of the network of more than 11,000 FOCUS program alumni.

"Emerging Leaders is unlike any program I have ever seen. I firmly believe it is creating compassionate, innovative leaders bring a civic responsibility lens to personal and professional goals and actions."

— Sarah Small

WHAT TO EXPECT

Curriculum

While program content is continually evolving to meet the needs of each class, the curriculum covers:

- Understanding Self and Leadership
- Civic-minded Leadership
- Finding Your WHY as a Leader
- Understanding Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Along the way, you'll have the opportunity to explore your leadership style, examine regional issues from different perspectives, strengthen your communication skills, and build lasting connections with other leaders. Sessions include a mix of speakers, interviews with regional leaders, small-group discussion, interactive exercises and reflection activities.

Commitment

The four-month program is offered each spring and fall and includes:

- Opening retreat
- Seminar days, hosted at sites around the region
- Civic Action Project (small-group learning experience)
- FOCUS Now graduation/networking event

Impact

In a survey of our 2022-23 graduates:

- 100% gained a better understanding of St. Louis' civic landscape
- 96% said they built a diverse network of peers
- 92% felt they increased their ability to look at issues from multiple angles, seek out new perspectives and voices and take meaningful action.



“If you’re looking for a way to deepen your relationship with the St. Louis region, while expanding your network and engaging with meaningful work, Emerging Leaders provides you the space to connect, expand, and inspire.” —Nico Krehmeyer

Application Process

Applications for the Emerging Leaders program can be found online at www.focus-stl.org.

The application deadline for our Fall 2024 class is Monday, June 10, 2024.

You may also nominate an employee or colleague for the program online, and we will follow up to provide them with the application materials.

Tuition

The tuition for the Emerging Leaders program is \$1,000 and includes a complimentary FOCUS St. Louis membership during your time in the program.

Tuition is often covered in part or full by the participant’s employer. Partial scholarship assistance is available to those with demonstrated financial need.

Host a Civic Action Project

Civic Action Projects are a key element of our Emerging Leaders curriculum, providing participants with the opportunity to work directly with community partners to address challenges facing our region and apply the leadership skills they’re developing in the program. We are always looking for civic/community organizations to host Civic Action Projects.



For More Information

Visit www.focus-stl.org or contact Program Director Dr. Yoli Alover at yolia@focus-stl.org or (314) 657-4026.

About FOCUS St. Louis

Recognized as a national model for civic leadership development, FOCUS St. Louis provides diverse leaders with the civic awareness and powerful connections needed to be collaborative changemakers who advance a thriving region for all.

FOCUS offers a continuum of programs to engage leaders at every stage of their journey, from high school students to senior executives. More than 11,000 individuals have completed our programs, and FOCUS alumni and members are leaders who make a difference.

Change starts with leadership.

Leadership starts with FOCUS.

FALL 2024
PROGRAM
DATES

MONDAY, JUNE 10	Application Deadline	
TUESDAY, JULY 30	Mix & Mingle	6:00-7:30 p.m.
FRIDAY, AUG. 23	Opening Retreat	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, SEPT. 12	Seminar Day	1:00-5:00 p.m.
MONDAY, SEPT. 30	Seminar Day	1:00-5:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, OCT. 17	Seminar Day	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 6	Seminar Day	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, NOV. 14	Seminar Day	1:00-5:00 p.m.
FRIDAY, NOV. 15	CAP Presentations	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
MAY 2025	FOCUS Now Graduation	

Thank You to Our Emerging Leaders Supporters!



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