



LEADERSHIP GREATER CHICAGO

Signature Fellows Program

Each year, a diverse group of Chicago's most promising professionals and leaders are selected as Leadership Greater Chicago Fellows. The LGC Signature Fellows Program is the area's premiere civic leadership development program, immersing participants in the major socio-economic issues facing the City of Chicago and the Greater Chicago Region.



“ I am now more conscious of the impact large corporations can make on the greater good and intend on acting on that, which includes hiring decisions and community engagement. I feel significantly better equipped to lead in my role after the LGC experience. ”

— JAMIE GEORGAS
CBRE, INC., (FELLOW SINCE 2018)

Why Leadership Greater Chicago (LGC)?

THE NETWORK

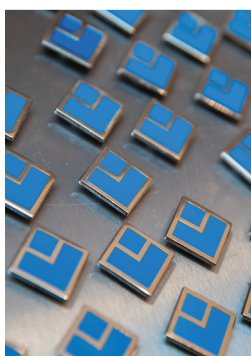
As an LGC Fellow, you will gain access to high-level professionals in all sectors and join an engaged network of more than 1,150 accomplished leaders who are dedicated to improving the Greater Chicago Region.

THE KNOWLEDGE

Fellows immerse themselves in an intensive 10-month exploration of current socioeconomic issues that provides the foundation for a lifelong commitment to civic engagement. Through dynamic education and experiential activities, Fellows gain first-hand insights through discussions with leaders at the forefront of social change.

THE INSIGHTS

Fellows learn from a diversity of opinions, styles, and world views, and develop the capacity to approach and break down complex problems to drive transformative change in effective and collaborative ways.



Intensive exploration
of current socioeconomic
issues



Access to
high-level
professionals
in all sectors





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About the Signature Fellows Program

Since 1983, the LGC Signature Fellows Program has equipped participants with the resources they need to understand how decisions are made, how complex policies are shaped, and how to influence meaningful change. Using the city as a classroom, LGC Fellows learn through interactions with private, public, and nonprofit decision makers, and work as a group to develop critical thinking, analytical, governance, and leadership skills.

Through retreats, full-day seminars, site visits, discussion groups, conversations with leaders and experts, service projects, and cultural events, Fellows seek to better understand the systems that influence how Chicago and the region function, as well as how an individual's personal values, biases, and approaches to working with others can shape their impact and the outcomes they achieve. Together, LGC Fellows explore critical community challenges, examine themselves as leaders, and build transformative relationships of trust and collaboration.

Program Benefits

Through the LGC Signature Fellows Program, participants will:

- Develop a deeper, multi-faceted **understanding of key socioeconomic issues** facing the Greater Chicago Region, and **build the connections that facilitate solutions**
- Prepare for a **lifelong commitment to civic engagement** and to drive positive social change
- **Gain access to the LGC Fellowship** of more than 1,150 regional change agents and decision makers
- **Build a network of diverse executive peers** from all sectors and a variety of industries
- Leverage collective resources to **make the Greater Chicago Region a more dynamic, inclusive, and collaborative community**

Benefits

Who Should Apply

LGC Fellows represent the broad diversity of Chicago. The Signature Fellows Program welcomes **candidates who are leaders from all sectors**, including corporate, nonprofit, government, and education, as well as entrepreneurs. Ideal candidates fall between the ages of 30-45. They are collaborative, innovative, action-oriented, creative, humble, and demonstrate personal responsibility and integrity.

LGC welcomes candidates of all races, religions, political affiliations, gender identities, sexual orientations, national origins, and physical and mental abilities.

To be considered for the Signature Fellows Program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Live or work in the Greater Chicago Region
- Have been in their current professional position for at least one year as of July 1
- Nominated and supported by their sponsoring organization, and seconded by at least one additional nominator
- Possess a clear capacity for leadership and growth in their chosen career
- Have a proven history of volunteering and civic engagement, and the passion and drive to tackle some of the major issues facing the Greater Chicago Region
- Demonstrate a clear willingness and ability to commit fully to the program

The LGC Signature Fellows Program is an intensive, year-long engagement that requires significant investment from both the Fellow and their sponsoring organization.

Acceptance into the Program is contingent on a commitment to the following requirements:

- Attendance at Opening Retreat (September), Mid-Year Breakfast (January), and Closing Retreat (June)
- Attendance at all eight Friday Sessions (usually the first Friday of the month, excluding holidays, October – May)
- Attendance at five of seven Leadership Breakfasts (monthly, October – May)
- Active participation in recommended/optional programming, including discussion groups, site visits, cultural events, and social activities



The Application

The Signature Fellows Program Application deadline is March 1 at 5:00p.m. CST. Leaders interested in applying should visit lgcchicago.org/apply for more information and the application.

APPLICATION DATES

October 1	Application Opens
December to February	Informational sessions held; visit lgcchicago.org or Facebook event pages for details
March 1	Deadline for all application materials and nominations
April	Interviews with LGC Fellows, Staff, and Board
May	Applicants and Sponsors notified of selection decision
July	Sponsor and personal contributions due
Late July	Class introduced at Annual Fellows Recognition Ceremony

COST

A financial contribution from the sponsoring organization of \$20,000 (for private sponsors and large nonprofits; amount scaled for smaller nonprofits, government, educational institutions, and entrepreneurs), and an individual contribution of \$1,500, is for approximately 200 hours of leadership development, individual coaching, travel, lodging, meals, and access to the LGC network and events. Payment in full for both contributions is required before the start of the Program.

SPONSOR A FELLOW

Organizations that sponsor LGC Fellows seek a competitive advantage through leadership that ignites transformation. The bar is rising for leaders to be capable of inspiring change, innovation, teamwork, and sustainable performance in their companies and organizations. By developing promising leaders with a broad perspective on the socioeconomic landscape of the city and region, and a commitment to positively impacting communities, your organization will emerge with the executive leadership needed for today's world and our future.

The LGC Signature Fellows Program attracts leaders who are taking on increasing responsibility.

The program is suited for individuals in your organization who are: a key part of your leadership development plan, positioned to lead organizational change, interested in advancing their leadership development, and confronting challenges that require new approaches.

In turn, your organization will benefit from an employee who is: a more well-rounded, inclusive, and civic-minded leader, better informed and involved in community issues, part of a network of more than 1,150 of Chicago's most influential change-makers, and equipped to serve beyond their organizational walls to transform our region and make Chicago a better place for all who work and live here.

All candidates are required to be supported by their sponsoring organization, which includes participating in two overnight retreats (early September and early June) and monthly full-day First Friday programs (first Friday of the month, October – May), and a financial contribution (see Cost section).

The Application Deadline is
March 1 at 5:00p.m. CST.



Apply



#LeadGreat

APPLY OR SPONSOR TODAY!



[LGCCHICAGO.ORG](https://www.lgcchicago.org)