2027 Water Leaders Program Application

Introduction

Water Education Colorado's Water Leaders Program aims to positively impact the Colorado water profession by creating a pipeline of dedicated, effective water leaders across diverse fields who exemplify the four quadrants of emotional intelligence: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, and social management.

Program admission is based on competitive criteria in order to maximize each participant's experience and ensure program diversity. Please note that while more than one applicant from the same organization may apply, only one participant per employer will be admitted in the same year. There are no organizations who maintain a designated seat for one of their employees in the class. Rather, all applicants are considered on their own merits.

Before completing this application, Water Education Colorado advises applicants to review program information available on our website at this link.

Please note that you may have trouble saving your answers or returning to past answers while completing the online application in Survey Monkey. We strongly recommend that you download the application questions here and prepare your answers offline first. Please anticipate that it will take about 30 minutes to complete this application.

Please keep answers concise and adhere to the word limit recommendations listed next to each question.

Minimum requirements to apply for Water Leaders Program:

- **Proven Past Commitment: The Water Leaders Program is designed for individuals who have already begun to establish themselves in the water profession. Applicants should have at least three years of work experience in a water-related field, but there is no upper-year limit. Water Leaders will benefit professionals who have spent any duration working in the water profession beyond three years.**
- **Proven Future Commitment: Applicants should identify a desire to continue their work in the water profession and demonstrate a commitment to help grow and advance the water sector in Colorado by providing leadership and expertise.**
- **Proven "Sphere of Influence": WEco defines Sphere of Influence as an individual's aility to impact the water sector in Colorado either by managing staff/projects/programs, working closely with a network of external partners outside of your organization, working to influence high-level decision makers, or other job-related connections that elevate your voice in the water sector.**
- **Colorado Focused: Applicants should be Colorado residents who work primarily in Colorado.**
- **Full Engagement: Participants must be ready to engage deeply in the Water Leaders process including by honestly answering self-assessments, accepting critical feedback from class participants and peer networks, investing time in**

personal reflection, and being willing to adapt and change personal and professional interactions to become a more effective leader.

Photo Release Disclosure

By participating in the Water Leaders Program, you grant Water Education Colorado (WEco) permission to capture and use photographs and/or video recordings of

2027 Water Leaders Program Application

Program Expectations

* 1. I understand that the Water Leaders Program is a personal leadership development program that will enhance my skills to grow my career in Colorado water, and that it is not a water educational or technical training program.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 2. I am open to taking personal assessments and working with my coach to understand my results. I am also open to using the feedback received in the program as a self-reflection tool to grow my personal skills needed for leadership development.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 3. I understand that in order to get the most from the Water Leaders Program I must commit myself fully to the process, attend all sessions, and complete all work through the duration of the program.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 4. Participation: Participants are required to attend 8 days of training over 4 separate sessions, plus three virtual inter-session check-ins. Other commitments include participation in extensive assessment instruments, personal/group coaching, inter-session assignments, and two mentoring opportunities with other professionals in the water sector. The required participation is 100%. Absences may be cause for dismissal. There are no refunds of tuition after the program has started.

The 2027 program schedule is below:

In-Person Training Sessions (Full Days)

April 22-23: Session One, Silverthorne
June 24-25: Session Two, TBD
Aug. 26-27: Session Three, TBD
Oct. 21-22: Session Four, Denver

Virtual Training Sessions (Two-Hour Sessions)

May 19: Virtual Session One
July 14: Virtual Session Two
Sept. 22: Virtual Session Three

If admitted, can you devote the required time to this program?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 5. Financial Obligation: If selected for the program, you must pay tuition of $5,200. Tuition payments in multiple installments can be arranged. No refunds are available once a participant commits to the program. Tuition includes all program materials and meals during the sessions. Additional costs for travel and lodging are not included, and are also the responsibility of participants and/or their employers. Please select one of the following:

- ◯ I will be personally responsible for the full tuition of $5,200.
- ◯ An entity such as my employer or sponsoring organization is paying my tuition. (If you select this option, please upload a Tuition Payment Letter of Intent below to show your sponsor's commitment.)
- ◯ Tuition will be partially covered by a sponsoring organization, and I will personally be covering the remaining portion of tuition. (If your tuition will be partially paid for, please upload Tuition Payment Letter of Intent below to show your sponsor's commitment for the amount they are contributing.)

6. If a sponsoring organization or your employer will be covering all or a portion of your tuition please upload the Tuition Payment Letter of Intent here.

Choose File | Choose File | No file chosen

7. **Scholarship:** If you would like to be considered for a partial scholarship to help offset tuition or travel expenses (subject to availability), include a statement below answering the following questions:

- What makes it difficult for you and/or your employer to cover the full tuition and travel expenses for the program?
- Why would you make an excellent addition to the Water Leaders Program?
- How might you add diversity to the 2027 class?

(500 word limit)

2027 Water Leaders Program Application

Personal Information

* 8. Name

First

Middle

Last

* 9. Work Address

Street or PO Box

City

State

Zip Code

County, e.g. Jefferson, Garfield, etc.

* 10. Home Address

Street or PO Box

City

State

Zip Code

County, e.g. Jefferson, Garfield, etc.

* 11. Which is your preferred mailing address for receiving program-related materials?

- [ ] Home Mailing Address
- [ ] Work Mailing Address

* 12. Phone

Mobile

Work

* 13. Preferred Email Address

* 14. How did you hear about the Water Leaders Program?

- [ ] Water Education Colorado email
- [ ] Headwaters magazine
- [ ] Water Leaders Program alumni
- [ ] Employer
- [ ] Other

If you were referred to the program, who was that reference from?

2027 Water Leaders Program Application

Professional & Educational History

* 15. Current Employer

* 16. Current Title/Position

* 17. Employment Period

* 18. Job Description (Limit 150 words)

* 19. Past Employer #1

Name

Position Held

Employment Period

20. Past Employer #2

Name

Position Held

Employment Period

21. Past Employer #3

Name

Position Held

Employment Period

* 22. College/Education Background #1

Name, Location of School

Degree, Field of Study

Special Honors/Awards

23. College/Education Background #2 (if applicable)

Name, Location of School

Degree, Field of Study

Special Honors/Awards

24. College/Education Background #3 (if applicable)

Name, Location of School

Degree, Field of Study

Special Honors/Awards

25. Professional Achievements & Highlights: Please list any professional awards or notable accomplishments.

Achievement #1

Achievement #2

Achievement #3

Achievement #4

Achievement #5

* 26. Describe any outstanding contributions you have made in your professional career that exemplify your leadership abilities/potential. (Limit 300 words)

2027 Water Leaders Program Application

Leadership and Interests

* 27. Past Leadership Training Experience: Have you ever participated in a leadership, management, or professional development training program(s) before?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

If yes, please briefly describe the program(s) you have participated in, and describe how you anticipate benefiting differently from the Water Leaders Program than the other program(s). (Limit 100 words)

* 28. Please briefly explain your understanding of the Water Leaders Program. (Limit 100 words)

* 29. Please briefly describe what you personally expect to gain from participating in the Water Leaders Program? Please include any skills you would like to acquire or areas of growth that you would want to focus on during the program. (Limit 200 words)

* 30. Why is right now the best time for you to participate in the Water Leaders Program? (Limit 100 words)

* 31. Sphere of Influence: WEco defines Sphere of Influence as an individual's ability to impact the water sector in Colorado either by managing staff/projects/programs, working closely with a network of external partners outside of your organization, working to influence high-level decision makers, or other job-related connections that elevate your voice in the water sector.

Describe your sphere of influence and how your leadership role impacts the people who are invested in your performance. (Limit 300 words)

* 32. Civic Participation: Please tell us about any **leadership** in civic, social, educational or political activities in which you've participated recently. List the organization, your role and briefly describe your contribution, responsibility, or accomplishment.

Civic Leadership #1

Civic Leadership #2

Civic Leadership #3

Civic Leadership #4

Civic Leadership #5

* 33. Involvement with Water Education Colorado (WEco): Please describe whether and how you have been involved with WEco in the past. (Limit 100 words)

* 34. Future Ambition: Describe how the future of Colorado water will be strengthened by your participation in the Water Leaders Program by outlining your long-term goals for your career, impact, and civic participation. Be specific about how your personal goals will directly strengthen the water sector in Colorado. (Limit 500 words)

2027 Water Leaders Program Application

Letters of Recommendation

* 35. References: You are required to upload two letters of recommendation as part of this application. Please provide the contact information for those who are writing your letters of recommendation. Please note that according to Water Education Colorado's policy, our board members may not submit a letter of recommendation on behalf of any applicant. View a list of current WEco board members at wateredco.org/our-people

Reference #1

Name

Employer

Title

Email

36. Letter of Recommendation #1

Please upload your first letter here:

Choose File | Choose File | No file chosen

* 37. Reference #2

Name

Employer

Title

Email

38. Letter of Recommendation #2

Please upload your second letter here:

Choose File | Choose File | No file chosen

* 39. I certify that the responses in this application are my own and accurately reflect my background and interests.

Electronic signature

Date