



Leadership U Program Overview

Leadership U (LU) is a unique leadership development and community service program available for Howard County (HoCo) high school sophomores. Eligible students must live or go to school in HoCo. Starting in summer following the sophomore year, this 4-month program fosters leadership growth and civic engagement through three pillar areas:

- ❖ Education on Community Issues
- ❖ Student Developed Community Service Projects
- ❖ Development of Student's Unique Leadership Skills

Program Eligibility:

- Students must be current sophomores to apply
- Student must live OR attend school in Howard County
- Must submit online application, two references, and attend interview

Applicant Information:

Application Deadline: March 16, 2017

- Online applications accepted from January to March 16
- Application format is eight short answer questions
- Two references are also required
- Personal interviews are held in April
- Selection is based on written application, references, and interview. Selection notices are made in early May.
- LU will accept fifty students from all HoCo public high schools and numerous private school and home school programs
- 2017 fees \$895 - Financial assistance and payment plans are available. Tuition covers the cost for the week-long training, meals, materials and a graduation dinner and ceremony for participant and their parent(s).

Program Schedule:

1. Summer Week--held July 23-28, 2017
2. Sunday Session--held on nine Sundays typically from 2 to 4:30 pm between August and December (Please note, some projects necessitate a group to meet on their own in addition to the nine Sunday sessions)
3. 3D-HC—held one day when HCPSS are off from school in fall
4. Graduation—held in early December

Program Curriculum:

Summer Week of HoCo Community Learning

LU participants visit locations across the county for hands on learning on subjects such as:

- Team Building (Session held at Terrapin Adventures)
- Healthcare (Session held at Howard County General Hospital)

- Government (Session held at Howard County Government Offices)
- Needs of Special Populations such as 50+ Seniors (Session held at 50+ Senior Center)
- Law Enforcement (Session held at Howard County Detention Center)
- Diversity in the County
- Health & Human Services
- Community Non-Profits and needs of the county

Community Service Project Sunday Sessions

At the conclusion of the Summer Week, the LU class is divided into 7 teams to work on student developed and implemented community projects to help address a community need their class has identified. Working with an adult volunteer mentor, all students meet for nine Sunday afternoons (twice a month) from August to December to work on their projects. During these sessions, leadership skill development continues with guest speakers from the community and abundant opportunities for students to apply these leadership skills in their groups and community as they implement their community service projects.

3D-HC – Dig Deep and Discover Howard County

One weekday that Howard County Public Schools are closed, students visit a Howard County non-profit to learn about leadership, nonprofit operations, and to participate in hands-on service.

Graduation

Students present their projects to their families, friends, school administrators and Leadership Howard County board and members.

What's next?? LU Students Takes Their Place

LU graduates often continue their community service through active volunteering, school leadership roles, and advisory board positions such as the HC Commission for Women, Police Advisory Board, Recreation and Parks, HC DrugFree, CA Village boards and more. Many have also found their expanded leadership capabilities valuable as they transition to college and other future endeavors.

Additional Program Information: Visit www.leadershiphc.org

2017 Information Sessions from 7 to 8pm for Students and Parents

January 24	Miller Library
February 13	Central Library
March 2	Miller Library

Conditions for Retention in Leadership U Program:

Attendance at all sessions during the first week of the program – Sunday, July 23, 2017-Friday, July 28, 2017

Adherence to the Leadership U Code of Ethics

Attendance at **all** required Sunday afternoon meetings – August – December 2017 (There are usually two per month)

Ability to attend ad-hoc team meetings to be determined by each project team (this is in addition to the regularly scheduled Sunday meetings)

Full participation in the design and implementation of the team project

Program Contact:

Meg Ignacio, Director of Youth Programs
 Leadership Howard County
 6760 Alexander Bell Drive Suite 260, Columbia, MD 21046
mignacio@leadershiphc.org or 410-730-4474 X115