

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a current IEA-NEA Member.
- Must commit to participate in all sessions, webinars, readings and homework between sessions.
- Must commit to utilizing skills learned within the IEA.
- Must be open to new experiences.
- Must believe in the importance of collective action and the right of employees to organize and participate in unions.

For more information go to: www.ieanea.org/esp Contact: ESP-ELA Leadership Team c/o Crystal Bush crystal.bush@ieanea.org







When we unite we can do great things!



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The ESP Emerging Leaders Academy (ESP-

ELA) is a leadership training designed to prepare ESP members to become effective leaders. This training will give participants the skills, knowledge and resources needed to become strong union activists at the local, region, state and national levels.

Why ESP-ELA?

ESPs are the fastest growing membership category at the state and national levels. ESPs often have the most contact with other staff, administration and students. Most ESPs live in the community in which they work. This gives ESPs the opportunity to connect to a diverse group of people.

The ESP-ELA will give emerging ESP leaders the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to empower them to have a greater voice in public education.

Training Sessions and Locations



Pre-Session Webinar: January 2020, IEA and NEA Leadership Competencies

Learn about the NEA and IEA Leadership competencies and complete a personal leadership competency assessment. Participants will also review program expectations.

Session 1: March 2020, Leadership Development (Orlando, Florida) – 6 days

This session will begin with learning about the structure of the IEA and NEA. Participants will also gain a deeper understanding of the role of unions and unionism. The training will continue with learning about emotional intelligence, risk taking, inter-personal skills, conflict management, communication styles and true colors.

Session 2: April 2020, Cultural Competency Springfield, IL – 2 days

Participants will attend the IEA Human and Civil Rights committee training on cultural competency where they will learn about racial and social justice as it relates to public education.



Session 3: May/June 2020, Webinar Topic TBD

Session 4: July 2020, Organizing and Politics Summer Leadership Academy - 3 days

ESPs will develop their organizing skills and learn the fundamentals of internal and external organizing. Participants will also gain a deeper understanding of the power of collective action and methods of building an organizing campaign.

Session 5: September 2020, Capstone Project – 1-2 days

The participants will use the skills learned to facilitate a capstone project.

Session 6: October 2020, One Conference - 2 Days

Participants will share their Capstone project(s), learnings, successes and outcomes of the training.

The goal of the ESP-ELA is to develop leaders who will use their skills to develop a stronger association.