

This is a 12-week online program with content provided by industry leading executives. The curriculum provides best practices in leadership, organizational development and change management, negotiation and collaboration, effective business communication, and how to deliver increased value from high performance county management.

Course 1: Leadership Mindset & Positive Engagement

This course provides insights from members of the program's National Leadership Board on the ways leaders shift their mindset from being excellent individual contributors to becoming highly effective leaders. The course also focuses on increasing empowerment and engagement to achieve individual, team and enterprise success. The second half of this course demonstrates how leaders enable "positively deviant" performance and engender positive culture and communication.

Course 2: Leading Effective Change

The emphasis of this course is to prepare participants to engage in change initiated by others and to drive effective change as an active change agent. This course illustrates three facets of organizational change, including planning, executing and sustaining successful change. A balance of theoretical and pragmatic insights allows participants to understand the strategic, financial or market-based reasons for change and drive toward breakthrough results.

Course 3: Communication and Collaboration

Participants learn and practice the skills needed to improve the quality of interpersonal communication in a variety of contexts. Participants will learn how to effectively speak the language of business and convey information across diverse stakeholder groups, as well as break down silos between business divisions to drive better decision making. Each participant will understand effective communication as it relates to leading others, managing conflict, providing and receiving feedback, and negotiating with the Mutual Gains Approach.

Course 4: Leading High Performance Teams

This closing course focuses on measures, metrics, and practices used across the enterprise to achieve high performance. Participants learn that business results – values and benefits – may differ from one company to the next and even from department to department within a single company, but the consistent variable is It's All About People.

COURSE 1: Jan. 8th – Feb. 2nd

Module 1: Your Leadership Mindset
Module 2: Your Potential as a Positive Leader
Module 3: Positive Leadership and Your Team:
Empowerment & Engagement
Module 4: Leadership Rules and Your Oath
Break Week: Feb. 5th – Feb. 9th

COURSE 2: Feb. 12th – March 8th

Module 1: The Process of Change: Planning
Module 2: The Process of Change: Executing
Module 3: The Process of Change: Sustaining
Module 4: Leadership Rules and Your Oath
Break Week: March 12th – March 15th

COURSE 3: March 18th – April 5th

Module 1: Speaking the Language of Business
Module 2: Positive Communications
Module 3: Mutual Gains Approach

COURSE 4: April 8th – April 12th

Module 1: It's All About People
Graduation: April 12th



"The Professional Development Academy is having a profound impact on the business communication skills and leadership capabilities of those participating – must for anyone looking to maximize their potential and effectiveness as a leader in their organization."

Dave Kotch, CIO, FMC