



2011 Program Application

THE PROGRAM

The Emerge Massachusetts (MA) Program (the "Program") is a non-profit political training program for Democratic women from Massachusetts who demonstrate an interest in running for elected office. The Emerge MA Program is designed to:

- Give a thorough overview of the political process and what it takes to run a successful and effective campaign;
- Practice and strengthen political leadership skills such as public speaking, fundraising, and campaigning;
- Provide direction on how to develop a network of political supporters; and
- Provide an opportunity to meet women who hold elected offices in Massachusetts.

The 2011 Program will meet once a month on weekends from January 2011 to June 2011. Exact Program details will be announced Fall of 2010. The following are the training dates in 2011:

- Saturday, January 22
- Sunday, January 23
- Saturday, February 12
- Saturday, March 12
- Saturday, April 9
- Saturday, May 21
- Saturday, June 4 (at the Democratic State Convention)
- Saturday, June 18 (Graduation)

Examples of speakers in the program have included: MA State Representative Ellen Story, Suffolk County Sheriff Andrea Cabral, Fitchburg Mayor Lisa Wong, Boston City Councilor Ayanna Pressley, and Lynn School Committee Member Maria Carrasco.

The success of the Emerge MA Program depends upon commitment to the Program's entire schedule by each participant. Over the six-month period, approximately 70 Program hours are scheduled. Some time outside of regularly scheduled seminars will be necessary to prepare for the following month's seminar. Emerge participants are also required to volunteer for a minimum of 10 hours during the six-month Program on a political campaign of their choosing.

Tuition for the Emerge Program is \$350. Tuition offsets the costs of Emerge MA's out-of pocket costs for providing the weekend training sessions.

****Emerge MA believes that individual financial circumstances should NOT be a barrier to participation in the Emerge MA Program. Partial and full financial aid may be awarded after admission to the Program.***

SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

Emerge MA seeks bright, self-motivated women who are committed to effective political leadership and are committed to run for elective office. Criteria for selection to the Program include:

- evidence of political leadership experience or potential, and meaningful involvement in workplace or community
- interest in running for political office
- demonstrated ability to bring together disparate groups to achieve a goal
- ability and desire to build effective networks
- ability to articulate a personal political vision
- demonstrated ability to inspire others



Emerge MA will select up to 20 women from Massachusetts who meet the above criteria and who we believe have the potential to be political leaders.

Emerge MA embraces diversity and encourages applications from all women regardless of age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, marital status, religious affiliation, sexual orientation or physical abilities.

Deadline

Completed original applications and **five copies** (for a total of six copies altogether) for the Program must be sent to Emerge MA by **October 4, 2010**. Do *not* use staples for any part of the original or copies of the applications.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through the fall of 2010, but applications received before October 4, 2010 will be given priority.

Interviews

Emerge MA will review completed applications and select finalists for the Program. Finalists will be invited to attend an interview at Emerge MA in November. From these interviews, the 2011 Program members will be selected.



**Emerge Massachusetts: Women Leaders for a Democratic Future
2011 Application**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:

Home Address:

City: State: Zip: Telephone:

Email:

Occupation (current profession, student, etc.):

Business Address:

City: State: Zip: Telephone:

Cell phone (optional):

To assist EmERGE MA in its effort to be inclusive in our recruitment and outreach efforts, please provide your ethnicity/race (Optional):

Please attach a professional-quality resume of no more than two pages.

FINANCIAL AID

If accepted, will you be requesting financial aid for your tuition (please circle)? Yes No

VOTING HISTORY

Are you a registered Democrat? Yes No
Did you vote in the last two Democratic Primary Elections? Yes No
If you did not vote, please explain:

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT QUESTIONS

Please answer the following required questions:

1. Please describe your leadership role in a project where you were responsible for achieving a goal and motivating others to achieve that goal. (750 words or less)
2. Please tell us why you would like to run for elected office and why you consider yourself a compelling candidate. (750 words or less)
3. Please list your recent and current involvement with public, community, and/or political organizations.

Please restate the essay question at the beginning of each essay.

*Note that a \$25 non-refundable application fee must be submitted by all applicants to the Program. Any financial aid awarded will not cover this application fee.



REFERENCES

Emerge MA requires two letters of reference as a part of your application. Please forward the reference forms to individuals familiar with your leadership abilities and/or your commitment to political and community activities.

Please instruct references to e-mail letters directly to jneufeld@emergema.org.

It is your responsibility to confirm that the Emerge MA office has received your letters of reference prior to the Application deadline. Applications will not be considered complete unless they include two letters of reference.

Reference 1

Name:

Title/Organization:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Telephone (day):

E-mail Address:

Relationship to Applicant:

Reference 2

Name:

Title/Organization:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Telephone (day):

E-mail Address:

Relationship to Applicant:



APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Your file will be considered complete when all of the items listed below are received by Emerge. Please do not submit additional letters of recommendation or any supplemental materials.

1. Completed application form (all pages), including written responses to Political Engagement questions
2. Resume (no more than two pages), including political, community and volunteer experience.
3. Two letters of recommendation, e-mailed directly to Emerge MA by your references.
4. \$25 non-refundable application fee (check payable to Emerge MA). Please mail application fee to:
Emerge Massachusetts
41 West Street, Suite 700
Boston, MA 02111

Application fee must be postmarked by October 4, 2010.

FOR OUR INFORMATION

To assist Emerge MA in improving its program recruitment, please state how you learned about the Emerge MA Program. Please be as specific as possible.

- Colleague:
- Emerge Alumna:
- Political Organization:
- Publication:
- Emerge Website (www.emergema.org):
- E-mail Announcement from:
- Information Session:
- Professor:
- Other:



DECLARATION ON APPLYING

In submitting this application, I affirm that:

I have reviewed the entire application and, to the best of my belief and knowledge, the information I have given is true and accurate. If selected for the Emerge Program, I will use the skills and knowledge gained to advance opportunities for Democratic women in the political process and interests of the Democratic Party and its candidates. Except for circumstances beyond my control, if selected, I will complete the Program in its entirety. Emerge may dismiss me from the Program if my performance proves unsatisfactory due to lack of interest or ability, unsatisfactory attendance, progress or conduct, violation of confidences shared during the program, or for any reason deemed by Emerge to be detrimental to the overall program.

Name of Applicant (please print): _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date: _____

I understand that if accepted into the program, my attendance is mandatory at all sessions, except in case of emergency.

Name of Applicant (please print): _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date: _____

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Please mail \$25 application fee to:

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Boston, MA 02111



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APPLICANT RECOMMENDATION FORM

Name of Applicant: _____

Instructions to the Applicant: Upon receipt of this form, Emerge may contact your references by telephone for verification purposes. By signing below we ask that you acknowledge and agree that we have your permission to contact your references and that you are waiving any right you may have to inspect the letters of recommendation.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Send below to those writing the recommendation for you:

Instructions to Reference:

The Emerge Program is designed to:

- Give a thorough overview of the political process and what it takes to run a successful and effective campaign;
- Practice and strengthen political leadership skills such as public speaking, fundraising, and campaigning;
- Provide direction on how to develop a network of political supporters; and
- Provide a forum to meet women who hold elected offices in Massachusetts.

Detailed information on the Emerge Program can be found at www.emergema.org.

Thank you for writing a recommendation letter for the Emerge Program applicant named above. We seek insight into the applicant's commitment to the political process. We appreciate your candid opinion of the applicant.

To be successful in the program, applicants must possess the following:

- evidence of political leadership experience or potential, and meaningful involvement in workplace or community
- interest in running for political office
- demonstrated ability to bring together disparate groups to achieve a goal
- ability and desire to build effective networks
- ability to articulate a personal political vision
- demonstrated ability to inspire others

Please answer the following questions and include your daytime telephone number.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
2. Please describe the traits, skills, and experiences that help make the applicant well-suited for elected office. Please provide examples.
3. How well do you think the applicant meets the requirements cited above? Please provide examples.

Please email your recommendation letter by October 4, 2010 directly to: jneufeld@emergema.org
If you have any questions, please call 617.367.4930.