



NEW MS Summer Institute 2023

APPLICATION

NEW Leadership® Mississippi (NEW MS) is a statewide public leadership training program at the Center for Women's Research and Public Policy (CWRPP)—a unit of Mississippi University for Women (The W)—that furthers

The W's mission to advance women's education and leadership development. The non-partisan, six-day program is designed to educate, empower, and encourage the state's undergraduate students to become politically active and to lead in public service.

During the NEW MS Summer Institute, students will meet women working in politics in the state (including many elected officials), learn about women in politics and Mississippi politics, and develop and practice leadership skills through panel discussions, workshops, and hands-on projects. Participants earn two college credits in women's studies or political science (POL/ WS 365 Mississippi Women in Politics) that may be transferred to the institution they attend. After the summer institute, participants become part of NEW Leadership's national network of distinguished alumnae.

Important Dates

- Applications are due Friday, **April 7**.
- The 2023 Institute will take place **June 4 – June 9** on The W's Columbus campus.
- Students will receive notice of their acceptance or rejection by Monday, **April 24**.
- Acceptance packets must be returned by Friday, **May 12**.

Cost

Students are responsible for arranging transportation to Columbus, MS on Sunday, June 4 and for their departure on Friday, June 9. Housing, meals, instructional materials, and transportation to and from Jackson, MS are provided at no cost to participants. In addition, a full tuition scholarship covers the cost of each student's enrollment in two hours of college credit at The W. NEW MS is free to students thanks to the generous financial support of The W, the Ascend Fund (a collaborative fund dedicated to accelerating the pace of change toward gender parity in U.S. politics), and private donors.

Eligibility Requirements

NEW Leadership® Mississippi is open to undergraduate students enrolled in any Mississippi college or university and Mississippi residents enrolled out-of-state. We are committed to diversity in terms of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, political ideology, and sexual orientation. We strongly encourage women of all backgrounds to apply.

Selection Criteria

The application process is competitive and all applications received by April 7 will be given full consideration by the NEW MS Admissions Committee, which is composed of the program director and faculty advisors. Each year, the Committee selects students with the intent of creating a class of individuals who represent diverse backgrounds and experiences and who have the potential to increase women's political representation in the state. Five primary criteria guide the competitive selection process:

- Individual leadership potential;
- Special interests, unique characteristics and/ or diverse experiences which contribute to NEW MS program objectives and learning goals;
- Interest in politics, public service, or public policy;
- Articulated or demonstrated potential to contribute to the goal of increasing women's political representation and leadership; and
- Commitment to the goal of gender parity in politics.

Student Commitment

Each year, the Admissions Committee is forced to reject applicants because of limited space. In completing this application, you are making a commitment to attend the Summer Institute if accepted. In the event of an emergency that prevents your attendance, you should notify the program director, Dr. Chanley Rainey (newleadership@muw.edu) as soon as possible to increase the chances that someone on the waitlist can be invited.

All NEW Leadership® Mississippi participants must reside in the residence halls during the entire program June 4 - 9, 2023 and participate fully in all scheduled activities in order to receive credit in the associated course, POL/ WS 365 Mississippi Women in Politics.

In completing this application, you acknowledge that you are aware of these requirements and agree, if accepted, to make every effort to meet this commitment.

Contact Information

Name _____
First Middle Last

Mailing Address _____
Street City State Postal Code

Permanent Address _____
(if different) Street City State Postal Code

Home Phone _____ Mobile Phone _____

Email _____ Preferred Contact Method _____

Academic Information

College/ University: _____

Program of Study: _____
Major Minor(s)

Additional Areas of Interest: _____

Standing: _____
GPA Classification (Fresh., Soph., Junior, or Senior)

Relevant Experiences & Qualifications

Please list any courses you've taken in political science or women's/ gender studies:

List honors and awards you have received:

List any leadership positions attained and indicate which, if any, were elected positions:

Describe the political or community activities and/ or organizations with which you have been involved. Which is most important to you and why? Have you worked with any political organizations or advocacy organizations? (150-250 words)

Why do you wish to participate in the NEW MS Summer Institute? What do you expect to get out of participating in this program? (150-250 words)

Women's issues and experiences are diverse and include those of pro-life women and pro-choice women, Muslim women and Zionist women, trans/ gender nonbinary individuals, religious conservatives, and women of all ethnic and racial backgrounds. How would your participation in this program help increase women's political representation? What issues and ideas would you focus on in your work to expand women's representation (150-250 words)

Demographic Information

Note: The CWRPP is committed to diversity in terms of political ideology, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, and sexual orientation. Your voluntary responses to the questions in this section—when considered alongside the experiences and interests you describe in other sections of the application—help the Admissions Committee assess your potential to contribute to cohort diversity. No applicant is ever admitted or excluded solely on the basis of their demographic profile; rather, all are considered holistically.

Age: _____

How do you describe your race/ ethnicity? (Select all that apply)

Asian/ Pacific Islander

Black/ African American

Hispanic/ Latinx

Middle Eastern/ North African

Multiracial

Native American/ American Indian/ Alaska Native

Tribal Affiliation: _____

White

Prefer to self-describe: _____

Prefer not to state

Thinking about the household in which you were raised, what is your best estimate of your family's annual income?

Below \$12,000

\$69,000 to \$91,999

\$12,000 to \$22,999

\$92,000 to \$122,000

\$23,000 to \$45,999

Above \$122,00

\$46,000 to \$68,999

What is the highest level of education attained by your parents or guardians?

No diploma

High school diploma/ GED/ equivalency

Some college, no degree

Associate degree

Bachelor's degree

Master's degree

Professional degree (beyond bachelor's)

Doctorate degree

If there anything about your identity and personal background that you would like for us to know about you and your personal background that is not reflected in any of the other questions, please let us know here:

End of Survey

To help us improve program outreach, please tell us where you heard about NEW Leadership Mississippi:

NEW Leadership® participants are expected to attend all summer institute sessions during the entire summer institute from June 4 - 9, 2023. In submitting this application, you acknowledge that you are aware of these requirements and agree, if accepted, to make every effort to meet this commitment.

**Email your completed application and resume to Dr. Chanley Rainey at
newleadership@muw.edu**