

Today's local elected officials face myriad complex challenges, chief among them how best to lead and govern.

When equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills, elected leaders enjoy greater success in guiding their organizations and communities.

[GO.UNC.EDU/LELA](https://go.unc.edu/LELA)

THINK CREATIVELY
ACT COLLABORATIVELY
LEAD STRATEGICALLY

The Local Elected Leaders Academy (LELA) creates pathways for learning and recognition designed to suit the needs of county and elected municipal officials, school boards, and tribal council officials at any phase of their tenure in public office. The curriculum helps you keep up with the ever-evolving legal requirements of governing and develop the leadership skills and behaviors that promote effective governance.

Courses are divided into four levels of continuous leadership development, ranging from understanding the laws, to working effectively with others who govern, and ultimately developing your personal leadership skills and behaviors. It is not required that these courses be taken in ascending order.

LELA 101 From Campaigning to Governing: Laws, Roles, and Responsibilities

Instruction focuses on fundamental legal frameworks and the primary responsibilities of local elected leaders. Officials are encouraged to take as many of these programs as possible in their first two years in office.

LELA 201 Pathways to Excellence in Governing

Content covers the more complex functions of local government, introduces topics of equal interest across jurisdictions, and presents foundational leadership practices that can be especially beneficial for effective governance.

LELA 301 Pathways to Collaborative Leadership

These courses focus on the ways in which leaders can collaborate with other elected or appointed constituency groups and practice behaviors that build trust and a shared sense of purpose.

LELA 401 Pathways to Advanced Leading and Governing

Offerings in this category advance the participants' leadership skills and behaviors in a way that allows them to delve deeply into their personal leadership practice and philosophy. Graduates of these courses model best practices in effective leadership.

Within each of these levels, courses range from full-day, in-depth learning experiences to digestible and self-paced online learning. Visit go.unc.edu/LearnNowLELA to access Top 10 Primer series, Day in the Life podcasts, and From Campaigning to Governing modules.

Courses range from full-day, in-depth learning experiences to digestible and self-paced online learning. Look for our **TOP 10 PRIMER SERIES** of hour-long, interactive webinars covering relevant and specific topics each month.

Explore our *A Day in the Life* Podcast, 15–30-minute podcast recordings of faculty discussing topics that elected officials might encounter during a day, at go.edc.edu/LearnNowLELA



WINTER 2023 UPCOMING COURSES

LELA 101 FROM CAMPAIGNING TO GOVERNING: LAWS, ROLES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Essentials of County Government

January 18–20 • online

Legal Competency for Local Elected Officials

April 12 • online

Working Better Together: Governing Guidance

May date TBD • online

Ethics Webinar

May date TBD • online

Fiduciary Responsibilities for Local Elected Officials

Date TBD • online

LELA 101 Top 10 Primers (free interactive webinars)

Managing Conflict: Tips and Practices Roundtable

February 10

Transportation Planning in North Carolina

April 11

Social Media for Local Elected Officials

May 12

LELA 201 PATHWAYS TO EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNING

Evaluating Manager and Board Performance

February 23 • online

When Differences of Opinion Escalate: Conflict Resolution for Local Elected Officials

March 23 • Chapel Hill

Essentials of Economic Development

Date TBD • Western Carolina University

LELA 201 Top 10 Primers (free interactive webinars)

Land Use, Planning, and Zoning for Local Elected Officials

January 27

School Funding Process for Local Elected Officials

February 24

LELA 301 PATHWAYS TO COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

Strategic Planning: Linking Strategies to Results

Jan. 19 • online

Race Matters: Courageous Conversations for Leaders

May 12 • online

Development Finance Toolbox

January 23–25 • online

LELA 401 PATHWAYS TO ADVANCED LEADING AND GOVERNING

Advanced Leadership Corps

Feb. 4–9, 2024 • Chapel Hill

Applications open late August 2023