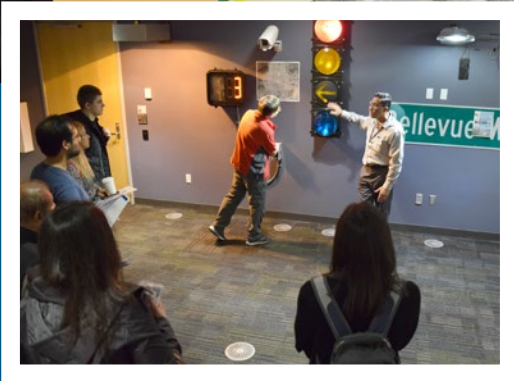




Bellevue Essentials

AN INTRODUCTION TO CIVIC LEADERSHIP

NOW IN OUR 10TH YEAR!



A ten-week course on Bellevue city government in action

What is Bellevue Essentials?

Bellevue Essentials is a ten-week civic engagement program during which you will learn about the structure and daily operations at the City of Bellevue. Hands-on activities allow participants to experience the day-to-day challenges of running a local government. Each session includes some pre-class homework, a networking dinner, learning about specific departments and services, and interactive activities. You will talk informally with city staff and leadership and develop close relationships with your classmates. Bellevue Essentials connects residents with the city and provides new leaders with information and connections to help strengthen our community.

The 2022 Bellevue Essentials class will begin with a Zoom orientation on September 21 and is expected to meet in person for the class season.

Who should apply?

Bellevue Essentials cohorts are demographically representative of Bellevue's diverse community. Bellevue Essentials is designed for people who are:

- Curious about civic engagement and participation in local government
- Interested in gaining skills and knowledge around how city government works and how to effectively be involved
- Interested in networking with city staff and leadership and emerging community leaders
- Committed to the future of Bellevue and to serving their community
- Live or work in Bellevue (residents are given priority)

Every year, Bellevue Essentials receives nearly twice as many applicants as we can accommodate. In 2022, we will accept 35 applicants, so it is important to thoroughly complete your application. An information meeting and one-on-one application assistance are available to all applicants. See insert for details.

Applications are due on Wednesday, July 27, 2022 at 5 p.m. Tuition is \$150.00 (payable after acceptance) and a fee waiver based on financial need is available.



What is the class schedule?

Class Orientation via ZOOM, Wednesday, Sept. 21, 6-7pm

Class is held Wednesday evenings, Sept. 28-Nov. 30 (excluding Nov. 23)

Class sessions have dinner at 5:30 p.m. and class from 6-8:30 p.m.

Parks tour day, Saturday, October 8, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Graduation, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 7-9 p.m.

Attendance is required at 8 of 10 classroom sessions to graduate

What will I learn about?

- History and Demographics
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- How City Government Works
- Parks and Community Services
- Utilities
- Finance and Budget
- Economic Development
- Community Development (City Planning)
- Development Services (Permits and Code Compliance)
- Transportation
- Public Safety (Police, Fire, Emergency Services)
- Neighborhoods

Questions?

Contact Julie Ellenhorn, Neighborhood Outreach, City of Bellevue
425-452-5372 or email at jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov.



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable accommodation requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-5372 (voice) or email jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov. For complaints regarding accommodations, contact City of Bellevue ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168 (voice) or email ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov. If you are deaf or hard of hearing dial 711. All meetings are wheelchair accessible.

Where are our graduates now?

Since 2013, over 300 participants have graduated from the Bellevue Essentials program. All of Bellevue's neighborhood areas are represented in the alumni group, as well as many cultures, backgrounds, occupations, and views. Each individual has brought their breadth of experience to the classes and community. Many of our alumni now serve on city boards and commissions, advisory committees, neighborhood associations, and at nonprofits in the community. They lend their leadership skills and knowledge of Bellevue all over the community and help to build a better future for our city.

What do alumni say about Bellevue Essentials?

The Bellevue Essentials experience goes beyond learning about how the city functions. The course is highly enjoyable and a spectacular educational experience. I have strongly recommended it to my neighbors. It will help you understand and better your community. *-Randy Dearth, Class of 2019*

"I came to Bellevue Essentials seeking to learn, make connections, and find where I "fit." I left each session full as they all brought great speakers and thorough information. This educational opportunity works! It brings people together to connect and build community. It shows people they can make a difference with passion and connection. Thank you for this class." *-Michelle Rainville, class of 2021*

"I loved getting to know the dedicated professionals working in our City. They really take other ideas into consideration and work hard to find equitable solutions. Bellevue Essentials is just the beginning of understanding how things get done, and the positive impact we can have." *-Betsi Hummer, Class of 2014*