

THE LEADERSHIP SERIES

Graduation Requirements

If you're concerned about these requirements, or worried about something else that might prevent you from joining the next class, click the last item on our list, and a dialogue box will open so you can explain your situation and let us know how we can help. We'll review that information when we receive your application so we can also talk about any issues you may have during the interview.

Either way, you can rest assured that our Leadership Series team is flexible, creative, and committed to your success. We know you'll be amazing and pledge to work with you to help figure things out.

Everyone who is applying for the Leadership Series must agree with the following Participation and Privacy Requirements to graduate.



Requirement 1: Members must attend the virtual Kick-Off retreat on **Wednesday, February 7th**, and weekly classes, which begin on **Wednesday, February 14th**, and continue until the end of **June 2024**. Members are also responsible for confirming the date, time, and Zoom Meeting details before each class begins.

- The retreat **starts at 10:30 am** and **ends at 2:30 pm**, with an hour-long break for lunch at noon.
- The **weekly classes run from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm**.

Requirement 2: The Leadership Series is a BIG commitment! Classes meet every Wednesday from February 8th thru the end of June. Members should only miss class if they have an excused absence, or they may not be able to graduate.

An "excused absence" means you aren't able to attend class due to circumstances beyond your control.

For example, missing class because you're sick or you lose your internet connection are both excused absences. On the other hand, deciding to skip class and go to the beach definitely isn't one!

THE LEADERSHIP SERIES

Graduation Requirements

Requirement 3: As a member of next year's Leadership Series, you'll have various assignments to work on outside of class. You'll also have a team of Peer Mentors that you can contact for assistance.

In the Leadership Series, you don't need to worry about failing because we don't assign any grades. But you do need to attempt to do the work, and you're welcome to ask a Peer Mentor for some help. Members must make an effort, even if they're unsure what the "right answer" is. Bring your work to class instead of arriving empty-handed.

Requirement 4: I understand that there will be extra activities outside of class, such as virtual field trips, court hearings, public forums, various committee and workgroups, songwriting sessions, and other team-building activities. Although most of these will be optional, I agree to attend whenever possible.

Requirement 5: Leadership Series members play a key role in helping to plan Rhode Island's Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference and are also required to attend the 2023 event in order to graduate.

Requirement 6: The Leadership Series is a safe place to share personal information related to the topics we'll be discussing. This information is private and you must respect everyone's confidentiality. This means you won't repeat or discuss our confidential conversations with anyone outside of the Leadership Series, share a fellow class member's personal contact information without their consent.

Requirement 7: Advocates in Action will be recording our time together on Zoom. These recordings will be available for class members to review on the Advocates in Action website. They will also be taking photos and videos during the in-person events they ask class members to attend.

I understand that Advocates in Action may use some of this material to promote their organization and publicize the Leadership Series, and that they will remove any personal information before doing so.

Some ways that Advocates in Action may share the photos and recordings include using them in their newsletter, resource materials, and other multimedia productions, as well as posting them on social media, such as their Facebook Page and YouTube channel.