



UNMC

GREAT PLAINS
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Great Plains Leadership Institute

Year 20 Application Instructions

Applications due **Friday, January 30th, 2026 at 8pm Central Time**

Part 1: Applicant Demographics and Readiness

This portion of the application is to be completed online at

- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GPLIYR20>

The following components are requested in the online application. It is recommended that you complete essay responses in Microsoft Word, and then copy them into the field available in the online system.

NOTE: The system will not save your information. Please be prepared to respond to all questions in one sitting.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Applicant contact information
- Supervisor contact information
- Additional multiple choice questions

EDUCATION

Please indicate your education history (in brief).

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Please indicate your employment history (in brief) including up to three previously held positions.

ESSAYS

Essay #1: What will you bring to the GPLI experience?

In 500 words or less, please describe your:

- Current leadership role(s) and responsibilities;
- Sense of self (e.g. knowledge of your strengths and opportunities for growth, etc.);
- Sense of purpose/vision (e.g. what you hope to accomplish in your life and in the world, five year goals, etc.); and,
- Willingness to contribute to the GPLI learning community.

Essay #2: Where is one place you would like to focus your attention and growth?

In 500 words or less, please describe which of the 4 core competencies that anchor this Institute you would most like to strengthen. (Choose one!) Why is this the time to enhance personal knowledge, skills, and behaviors in this area?

Competency domains can be found here:

<https://www.unmc.edu/publichealth/services/ophp/gpli/curriculum.html>

SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITIES

In the online application, be prepared to electronically sign the following agreement form:

Institute scholars must commit the time, effort and resources required to complete distance-based activities (about two-three hours per week) and to participate in three on-site workshops of about three days each.

- I will commit the time necessary to attend all Institute events and fulfill the program assignments.
- I understand that I will be required to remain on-site throughout (day/night) the entire duration of the three scheduled on-site sessions.
- I will ask for and obtain real and demonstrable support from my employer(s) for time away from work needed to participate in three on-site sessions.
- I will read all assigned books and materials, complete self-assessments, and participate in distance learning activities.
- I will be an active participant in the Institute and agree to participate in group learning activities.
- I have (or will have) timely access to adequate computer hardware and software to participate in the distance-learning activities of the Institute.
- I understand that payment of the \$2,000 Great Plains Leadership Institute attendance fee is my responsibility with or without the assistance of my employer and there will be no refund after March 13.
- I understand that transportation to and from all Institute sessions and activities is the responsibility of the scholar and/or their organization.
- For marketing purposes, I authorize use of my name as a scholar/alumnus of the Institute and of photographs taken during my participation in Institute activities. I understand that as a part of this program I may participate in the creation of web pages that may contain demographic information about me, and I authorize the release of this information.

As an applicant for Great Plains Leadership Institute, I have read the Scholar Responsibilities above and hereby commit and agree to all of the conditions and requirements of the Institute.

Part 2: Letters of Recommendation

Please have your supervisor and other letter writer submit their letters of recommendation at:

- <https://redcap.link/GPLI20>

Letter #1:

From the Applicant's supervisor or person to whom Applicant is primarily accountable.

This letter should address the following qualities of the applicant in the context of leadership:

- Character, sense of vision and purpose
- Potential to positively impact the health and well-being of his/her community
- Potential to contribute to the leadership institute learning community

Letter #2:

One additional letter from a colleague of the applicant's choosing.

This letter should address the following qualities of the applicant in the context of leadership:

- Character, sense of vision and purpose
- Potential to positively impact the health and well-being of his/her community
- Potential to contribute to the leadership institute learning community

Letter Submission:

Letters must be received by the **January 30th, 2026** deadline.

Part 3: Scholarship Application

Some scholarships are available from these sources: Nebraska DHHS Division of Public Health, Midwest Public Health Training Center, generous contribution from Magda Peck Founding Director of GPLI, Public Health Association of Nebraska, and UNMC College of Public Health.

- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Yr20Scholarship>