



**AAEA Highly Effective School Leadership Certification
Cohort 1 Application
2021-2022**



The Highly Effective School Leadership Certification program was created using two of the most highly recognized school improvement processes in the nation: Professional Learning Communities at Work and High Reliability Schools. The experts involved with these two school improvement processes identified leadership skills necessary for success when leading school improvement. Leaders participating in this certification will learn and strengthen these skills in order to assist them as they drive school improvement in their buildings.

The program consists of intentional development of defined skillsets over a two-year period. Multiple assignments will take leaders through the development of five skill sets necessary for leading school improvement. These skillsets include: Setting the Direction, Developing People, Managing the Right Work, Redesigning the Organization and Celebrating Successes.

This program also involves active participation in recurring cycles of study and goal setting. Leaders will be asked to select a focus for both personal and school growth goals. They will choose a topic of study and engage in Action Research throughout each of the years. Month by month, leaders will implement leadership strategies aligned with defined goals. They will collect data, refine their studies, and collect evidence of effectiveness in order to complete an Action Research cycle. At the end of each year, leaders will meet with the other cohort participants and share their Action Research and findings.

Name _____

Home Address _____

Cell Phone Number _____

School Email Address _____

School District _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

School Phone Number _____

Please check all that apply:

I have completed the Beginning Administrator Induction Year 1 prior to the 2021-2022 school year.

I am fully licensed to be a principal in Arkansas.

I am on an ALCP to be licensed as a principal in Arkansas.

I will begin my first year as a building principal in Fall 2021.

Which best describes the grade band of the building in which you are the principal?

Elementary K-5

Middle/Jr. High

High School

Number of Years in Education: Total Years (All Positions) _____

Have you served as an Assistant Principal? Yes / No If yes, for how many years? _____

Explain why it is important for you to participate in the AAEA Highly Effective School Leadership Certification Program?

What are your strongest leadership skills and how will these serve you well as a building principal?

What about being the building principal seems most challenging and/or daunting to you?

The AAEA is working with DESE and Solution Tree leaders to design this program for educators who possess the following:

- Belief and sense of urgency to ensure all students achieve at high levels
- Desire to develop staff members to the greatest level of instructional practices
- Professional integrity
- Willingness/ability to be self-reflective
- Desire to refine current skills and advance to the next skill level
- Ability to achieve when faced with obstacles

To what extent would the above characteristics describe you?

Partially and I have a strong desire to grow into all attributes listed

Fully describes me

Fully describes me; others frequently describe me in this manner

Program Requirements

- This is a 2-year program that will begin in July 2021 and end in June 2023.
- The dates for sessions with Solution Tree Leaders are as follows. Dates are subject to change. Participation is required for all cohort members.
 - July 15th, Thursday: Onsite all day (Wilbur Mills ESC in Beebe)
 - August 19th, Thursday: Webinar 1:00 – 2:30
 - September 16th, Thursday: Webinar 1:00 – 2:30
 - October 21st, Thursday: Webinar 1:00 – 2:30
 - November 16th, Thursday: Webinar 1:00 – 2:30
 - January 20th, Thursday: Webinar 1:00 – 2:30 and Onsite all day (Arch Ford ESC in Plumerville)
 - February 17th, Thursday: Webinar 1:00 – 2:30
 - March 17th, Thursday: Webinar 1:00 – 2:30
 - April 21st, Thursday: Webinar 1:00 – 2:30
 - May 19th, Thursday: Webinar 1:00 – 2:30
 - June 16th, Thursday: Onsite all day (Arch Ford ESC in Plumerville)*Dates for the 2022-2023 school year will be set in May 2022.*
- Cohort participants will meet virtually two times each month with an assigned advisory. These sessions are typically scheduled after school hours and participation is required. These are in addition to the Zooms scheduled with Solution Tree Leaders.
- Upon completion of the two-year program, participants will receive Highly Effective School Leadership Certification and will have the option of obtaining building level Highly Effective School Accreditation (HESA).

Commitment of Participant

If selected for the cohort, I understand that I am making a commitment to be an active participant in each training session, including all advisory zooms and any self-study between sessions. I understand that there is no stipend for participating in this program and travel expenses are not reimbursed by the AAEEA. By signing below and submitting this form, I certify my agreement and commitment to this program as described.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Application Process

1. Deadline to submit this application is May 28, 2021.
2. Applications will be reviewed, and selected cohort members will be notified by June 11, 2021.
3. The maximum number of participants in this cohort is 20.

Superintendent Certification

I certify that this applicant will be a principal in my district in the 2021-2022 school year and has previously completed Beginning Administrator Induction Year 1. I commit to support her/him through this endeavor and ensure the understanding that attendance is mandatory at all sessions if she/he is selected, including those held virtually. I understand that travel expenses, including overnight stays if applicable, must be covered by my district. My signature below signifies my recommendation for this individual as a competent participant who has the skills necessary to be an effective building leader.

Superintendent Signature _____ Date _____

Applications may be emailed to l.thrasher@theaaea.org, faxed to 501-372-2807, or mailed to:

Lenett Thrasher
AAEA
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Little Rock, AR 72201