



2023-24 Maryland Counseling Association Emerging Leaders Program

The MCA Emerging Leaders Program was designed to provide graduate counseling students, new professionals, and experienced professionals with cultivating experiences that support leadership skill and competency development, and diverse opportunities to actively participate in MCA Executive Board meetings, serve on a committee, task force, and/or engage in projects of interest, receive mentorship, build professional networks, and gain exposure to the responsibilities associated with fulfilling elected leadership positions.

Individuals will be selected from the following applicant categories to participate in this program:

- graduate counseling students (master's or doctoral)
- new professionals (within one-year post graduation), and
- experienced professionals (graduated before 2019).

MCA Emerging Leaders will provide a minimum of 30 hours of service to MCA during the 2023-2024 fiscal year (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024). Committee and division work may require up to two hours per week. ELs are also invited to the monthly MCA Executive Board meetings which usually last 60-90 minutes. Please consider whether you have the bandwidth to fully commit to this opportunity and incorporate self-care. Recipients must be an MCA member at the time of application submission, and status (i.e., master, doctoral, new professional, experienced professional) should be based on student/graduation status as of June 1, 2023. New

professionals must have graduated within the previous calendar year (2022) to qualify for the program; otherwise they should apply as an experienced professional.

Emerging Leaders will receive complimentary registration to the 2023 MCA Annual Conference (\$250 value!), receive mentorship from a MCA leader, meet and network with other emerging leaders in the program, and be recognized at the conference as an Emerging Leader. Recipients will also be recognized on MCA's website, be featured in the MCA newsletter *Compass Points*, and have the opportunity to bolster and expand resume content through the development of helpful videos and web information for counseling students throughout the State of Maryland. Applicants who have exceptional leadership potential, that hold a willingness to serve MCA in a variety of roles, and have a passion for the betterment of the counseling profession are sought.

Interested applicants should compile the following into one pdf document and submit via email to the EL co-chairs at elchair@mdcounseling.org **no later than June 1, 2023. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.** Applications can be found on the MCA website at mdcounseling.org under the Emerging Leaders tab.

1. The MCA Emerging Leaders application
2. Your curriculum vitae (no longer than three pages)
3. Two letters of recommendation (one page each) describing your leadership skills and experiences, and reasons why you should be selected to serve as an Emerging Leader

Upon receipt of an application, a confirmation email will be sent. **Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. The selection committee will notify applicants of the status of their application on or before June 15, 2023.** If you have any questions, please contact us at elchair@mdcounseling.org.

**Maryland Counseling Association
2023-2024 MCA Emerging Leaders Program Application**

Part 1: Personal Information

Full Name:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Are you an ACA member: ___ Yes ___ No ACA Member ID #: _____

Are you an MCA member: ___ Yes ___ No MCA Member ID #: _____

Part 2: Commitment

Have you read the required activities for being an MCA Emerging Leader found in the MCA Emerging Leaders Overview (i.e., MCA service commitment, volunteer time at conferences, participation in committees/task forces)? ___ Yes ___ No

Please consider whether you have the bandwidth in your schedule to fully commit to this opportunity (approximately 2 hours per week) and incorporate self-care.

Do you feel you are able to commit to these activities? ___ Yes ___ No

Part 3: Institutional Affiliation

Please note you should complete the form based on your graduation status as of June 1, 2022 (e.g., If you graduate with a doctoral degree in June 2022, you would indicate you are a new professional, not a doctoral student).

If you are applying for the Master's or Doctoral Emerging Leader, please indicate your university and program area of study.

Master's or Doctoral Degree:

University:

Program area of study:

If you are applying for the New Professional or Experienced Professional Emerging Leader, please indicate your university or agency affiliation and job title.

University or Agency Affiliation:

Job Title:

Date of Graduation from Counseling Program:

Part 4: Essay

Please describe in 500 words or less how the MCA Emerging Leaders Program will assist you in achieving your professional goals. Be sure to include specific interest areas within MCA where you would like to gain experience (e.g., leadership skills, membership recruitment/retention, organizational development, professional advocacy, professional development, etc.) and any past leadership experiences that may inform your ability to serve as an MCA Emerging Leader.

Please include all documents (application, CV/resume, two letters of recommendation) into one single pdf file. Submit via email to elchair@mdcounseling.org no later than June 1, 2023 with the subject: *MCA Emerging Leader Application*. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.