2024 Emerge PA Training Program Application FAQ's

What is the Emerge PA Candidate Training Program?

Emerge PA's training program is a 6-month, intensive training program for Democratic women who are planning to run for elected office. The Emerge PA training equips leaders with the resources, knowledge, connections, and a community of support necessary for a successful run for office. We offer an in-depth training program that provides the best practices in fundraising, field, core campaign communications, endorsements, working with the media, and more. Participants will also have the opportunity to interact with political professionals and Emerge PA alumnae who have gone on to run for office. And once an Emerge Alumnae, our women become a part of a supportive network. By design, we select 20-25 women to participate in our program. We develop deeper relationships with our participants.

Who is the Emerge PA training for?

Emerge PA is intentional about recruiting Democratic self-identified women from groups that have been historically underrepresented in politics, including Black women, non-Black women of color, Indigenous women, and LGBTQ+ women. We seek to recruit and train leaders who reflect the communities they serve and have the life experiences that allow them to reimagine and rebuild our institutions in the fight for a just and equitable world.

The Emerge PA training program is designed specifically for Democratic self-identified women who are planning to run for office over the next 2-5 years, as well as for women who are actively running for office in 2024. Emerge PA is partisan, we only train Democrats.

Our program is for women who have run for office before and won or lost, as well as for women who have not run for office yet. We train women who are running for all types of offices up and down the ballot including state senate, mayor, county councils, town councils, city councils, state representative, school board, county row offices, judges, and US Congress.

Will the Emerge PA Training Program be held virtually or in person?

Emerge PA currently plans to conduct our political training program in person for half of our sessions (3 weekends) and online for 3 sessions.

When will the 2024 Emerge PA training be held?

The 6-month long training program will take place one weekend a month from March-September 2024. The weekend classes will be held on both Saturday and Sunday. We rotate our in person class locations, one class will be in Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh. In order to keep costs down for our class participants, we have decided to hold 3 of the 6 classes virtually.

Dates for the 2024 Emerge PA Class: The exact dates will be set in 2024

- April 13 & 14 This training will be held in person in Philadelphia
- April 20 Online
- May 18 & 19 This training will be held in person in Pittsburgh
- June 22 & 23 Online
- August either the 17 and 18, or 3 weeknights (6:00-9:00). The class will choose what works best
- September- either 15 & 16 or 22 & 23. This training will be held in person in Harrisburg. Our last training is in person on Sunday and then on a Monday we hold the Emerge Shadow Day at the State Capitol and Graduation ceremony Monday night at the capitol. Monday is optional to attend. There are 2 dates to hold, we will set a date as soon as the PA General Assembly sets their session days for September.

What is the time commitment?

We expect 100% attendance in our programs. We do allow participants to miss one class, however the first class is mandatory and cannot be missed.

What are the COVID Protocols?

This training is open to persons who are fully vaccinated at the time of the training.

What is the cost to participate in the Emerge PA Training Program?

Tuition for the six-month program is $1000, class participants can choose to fundraise a portion of or all of their tuition. The tuition can be paid in full or through installments. The first installment of $250 must be paid during the first training weekend. Tuition must be paid in full by September 2024. Tuition offsets but does not nearly cover the cost of Emerge Pennsylvania's out-of-pocket costs for providing the training sessions.

Financial need should not be a barrier to participating in our program. Emerge PA is dedicated to ensuring that the training program is accessible to all who are interested in participating — we are committed to working with each program member on an individual plan and tuition assistance to cover the tuition.

We encourage program members to consider all costs associated with the program. Program members will incur travel expenses related to participating in the training weekends, which rotate between Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, such as gas, lodging, child care, etc.

Emerge PA's believes that individual circumstances should NOT be a barrier to participation. That is why financial assistance has been available to program members since Emerge PA's inception. If financial concerns are holding you back from completing your application, please reach out to Rebecca McNichol, the Executive Director at rebecca@emergepa.org or 267-239-3399. Emerge is dedicated to ensuring that the training program is accessible to all who are interested in participating — we are committed to working with each program member on an individual plan to cover the tuition and other related costs.

What is the timeline of the application process?

Applications are open until March 1, 2024. Emerge Pennsylvania will review completed written applications and select finalists for virtual interviews. Finalists will be invited to attend a virtual/Zoom interviews during February and March 2024. From these interviews, the program members will be selected.

How do I apply?

There is a non-refundable application fee of $35.00 that must be paid for your application to be considered. **Click here to pay the application fee online**: or mail a check to Emerge Pennsylvania, P.O. Box 60078, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

Click here to apply:

https://pa.emergeamerica.org/online-application/

Please contact Rebecca McNichol, Emerge PA Executive Director at Rebecca@emergepa.org or 267-239-3399 with any questions!