



NONPROFIT FUNDAMENTALS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

FAQ

When it comes to the Nonprofit Fundamentals Certificate Program, we have the answers if you have the questions!

THE BASICS

What is the Nonprofit Fundamentals Certificate Program?

Answer: The Nonprofit Fundamentals curriculum is designed to help your organization build a sustainable future by providing essential tools and knowledge you need to run a successful nonprofit.

How do I get started?

Answer: You can begin by registering for any class currently offered - there is no program entrance requirement. Visit <http://www.nonprofitpathways.org> to register.

Who should take the courses?

Answer: Classes are appropriate for newcomers to the field, experienced leaders seeking fresh perspectives, board members, and volunteers. Nonprofit representatives are encouraged to bring another staff member or come as a staff/board duo. Each course will help you create an action plan to implement

what you learn at your organization. We also encourage you to share your knowledge by presenting course topics at future staff or board meetings.

I live outside of Western North Carolina. Can I still enroll in classes?

Answer: The course curriculum focuses on the regional needs of Western North Carolina counties. Classes are offered exclusively to nonprofits within the 18 county Western North Carolina region served by WNC Nonprofit Pathways.

CERTIFICATION

How do I earn a certificate in the program?

Answer: To receive a Nonprofit Fundamentals Program Certificate, you will need to complete 8 of the 20 classes offered in the series. Online courses are comprised of two 3-hours sessions, held on two consecutive days. You must attend both days to earn credit for the class.

Can I take individual classes without the intention of earning the certificate?

Answer: Yes, all classes are open to staff, board, and volunteers of Western North Carolina nonprofits.

Should your certification path shift or halt due to unanticipated events, no worries. There is no deadline to earn the certificate. Pick up where you left off when it makes sense for you.

CLASS CONTENT

What type of classes are offered?

Answer: Classes focus on the core competencies and professional development every nonprofit leader needs to achieve success.

Each class will conclude with developing an initial "action plan" in which you will identify issues and next steps for your organization based on the topic being taught. You will also review a research-based model of effectiveness for nonprofits that includes the Nonprofit Organization Lifecycle, Four Core Capacities (leadership, adaptability, management, and operations), and Organization Culture.

Who are the instructors?

Answer: Our instructors are established consultants and veteran instructors with extensive knowledge of the nonprofit sector and our region.



What is follow-up support?

Answer: After completing each class, attendees have access to follow-up coaching with their instructor within three months of class completion, on a first-come, first-served basis. Follow-up coaching is provided at no cost and is available for organizations located in and serving one or more of the 18 WNC counties.

CLASS SCHEDULE

How often are classes scheduled?

Answer: We offer a fall and spring session. The full rotation of 20 classes will be offered annually.

If I am unable to attend a class that is scheduled, will you offer it again?

Answer: Yes, we will offer classes on a rotating basis.

When is the deadline to register?

Answer: You can register for each class up to the day before its scheduled date. However, class enrollment levels are limited, so early registration is encouraged.

For online classes, there are two dates. Do I need to attend both classes?

Answer: Yes, online classes are 3 hours each day, totaling 6- hours per class. To receive credit for the class, you must attend both sessions and be in attendance for the entire 6 hours. Online classes are interactive and require class participation and group work. If you do not attend both sessions in their entirety, you will miss course content and affect the dynamics of the interactive sessions. If you cannot be present for the entire class (both sessions), we ask that you cancel your registration and reschedule at another time.

Do I need to take the classes in a specific order?

Answer: No, you can take classes in any order that accommodates your schedule. If you miss a scheduled class, we will offer it again later.

COST

How much do the classes cost?

Answer: Classes are \$50 online and \$75 in-person. The fee is for each course, whether two shorter online sessions or one longer in-person session. Fundamentals workshops are free for participants from WNC based and serving nonprofits organizations with budgets under \$50K. Pathways is committed to making these courses accessible to all nonprofit leaders in WNC. If you would like to attend, but the cost is a barrier, please get in touch with us at contact@nonprofitpathways.org

For online classes, does the fee include both days?

Answer: Yes, all online classes are \$50 and include both days.