

What is this Strive?

The Strive Grad Prep Academy—Strive GPA—widens the pathways to graduate and professional school for UT students, including M.A., Ph.D., J.D., and M.D. Launched in 2021, Strive offers currently enrolled undergraduates a range of resources and supports as they progress towards postgraduate studies. Strive’s goal is to build students’ “grad school literacy,” giving them the awareness and guidance they’ll need to prepare and submit competitive postgraduate applications. Strive helps students across campus transition from college to career more efficiently, more effectively, with more knowledge and more confidence.

What is the Lessons in Leadership program?

Lessons in Leadership is a semester-long program offering **twenty (20)** students the chance to dive deep into the habits of successful leadership, with an emphasis on the value and versatility of advanced degrees in developing and deploying positive leadership qualities. *Lessons in Leadership* is a collaboration between the Longhorn Center for Academic Equity’s Strive GPA, the Center for Access and Restorative Engagement, and Texas Leadership Education and Development.

What are the benefits of participating?

Students appreciate the connection between postgraduate education and professional success, and are often aware how the academic and experiential components of an advanced degree translate into career development. Less discussed are those experiences less obviously scholastic, but no less necessary for postgraduate and professional success. Skills like organizational and interpersonal communication, teamwork, critical empathy, and intellectual self-awareness help students engage with colleagues, mentors, and advisors in meaningful ways. The lessons in this series—defining and broadcasting your strengths, collaborating and active listening, project managing, etc.—will help students strategically navigate encounters, sometimes challenging, in ways that demonstrate and distinguish their effective leadership.

Who can apply? What are the requirements?

Applicants should be **serious** about preparing for academic and/or professional postgraduate studies. Applicants must be **currently enrolled undergraduates at UT**. Applicants must also have a **minimum GPA of 2.5**. Students from **any class** are welcome to apply. Students from **all majors** are welcome to apply. **First-generation** and/or **Pell-eligible** college students are encouraged to apply.

How can I apply? When are applications due?

To apply, please complete the short application: tinyurl.com/2p8y5xbu. You will upload either a resume or CV. Applications must be submitted by **Friday, 8 December 2023, 11:59P**. Serious applicants are encouraged to apply early.

What does the commitment look like?

Applicants selected to participate commit to attending **four (4) seminars**. Seminars meet from 4:30-6:30P the first Wednesday of each month during Spring 2024 in the WCP’s Leadership Lab. There is no homework, but active engagement during seminars is expected. Seminar topics include: Crafting Your Professional Brand on 7 February, Moving Forward with Project Management on 6 March, Staying Present in Difficult Conversations on 3 April, and Listening to Understand in Dialogue on 1 May. Attendance at all four seminars is expected for participants.

What counts as a professional organization, and how do I select one that’s good for me?

Participants who successfully complete the entire program receive up to **\$100.00** towards memberships dues to a professional organization of their choice. Organizations that are most closely aligned with a student’s academic and/or career goals are the best option. Program staff will assist students in selecting and joining logical organizations.

When and where can I learn more about the program?

Please attend one of the following info sessions to learn more. All times are Central.
All sessions are virtual, meeting in Zoom 97740906226 <utexas.zoom.us/j/97740906226>

For questions, contact Dr. Eric Dieter <ericdieter@austin.utexas.edu> and Yeo Ju Choi <yeoju.choi@austin.utexas.edu>.