



## **What to Know Before You Apply**

### **Mission of the Florida Engineering Leadership Institute**

The mission of the Florida Engineering Leadership Institute (FELI) is to empower engineering professionals with the knowledge and skills to become effective, authentic leaders committed to service within our communities, which is fundamental to realizing the ultimate goal of professional engineers helping to shape society worldwide.

### **About the Program**

Founded and facilitated by the Florida Engineering Society (FES) and the American Council of Engineering Companies of Florida (ACEC Florida), FELI is Florida's premier program for developing the next generation of leaders in the engineering profession and global engineering business community. The program focuses on building leadership skills and sharing real-world strategies to put these skills into practice for the betterment of the profession, our communities, our state and the world.

FELI provides a combination of learning experiences, including first-hand engagement with experts across multiple disciplines, interactive exercises for individual professional growth, peer-to-peer networking and collaborative team building. The program also provides opportunities for class members to network with FELI graduates to foster mentoring and strengthen the influence of the engineering community in the state and across the nation.

### **Time and Travel Commitment**

FELI consists of six sessions over ten months, from November through August, in cities throughout Florida. Each multi-day session focuses on a different aspect of leadership such as personal, organizational, governmental, individual, team and professional.

Sessions I, II, IV, and V follow the same schedule.

- Thursday: Team-building golf outing followed by an evening reception and class-organized team building dinners
- Friday: Full day of educational sessions, including breakfast, lunch and refreshments, followed by a class dinner
- Saturday: Half day of educational sessions, including breakfast and refreshments, ending at noon

Session III is held in conjunction with PE Legislative Days with a golf outing held the day before the policy fly-in.

Session VI, which includes a graduation ceremony, is held during the FES | ACEC Florida Annual Conference.

| Session | Location      | Related Activities | Dates for 2027 Class               |
|---------|---------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| I       | Tampa         | Board Meetings     | November 19 – 21, 2026             |
| II      | Orlando       |                    | Dates TBD: January / February 2027 |
| III     | Tallahassee   | PE Days            | March 22 – 24, 2027                |
| IV      | St. Augustine |                    | April 22 – 24, 2027                |
| V       | Miami         |                    | Dates TBD: May / June 2027         |
| VI      | Orlando       | Annual Conference  | August 4 – 7, 2027                 |

### **Volunteer and Fundraising Commitment**

Each FELI class applies the leadership principles, teamwork and strategic thinking cultivated through the course curriculum to collaboratively plan, develop and raise money to implement one or more volunteer projects. The projects provide participants with valuable hands-on leadership experience and the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution beyond the classroom, leaving a lasting impact on our communities and state.

### **Cost**

Tuition is \$5,000, which covers the cost of educational sessions, some meals, and registration for PE Days and the FES | ACEC Annual Conference.

Tuition does not cover travel, lodging, additional meals, optional outings and incidentals. Participants are responsible for these costs. The program secures a room block at a discounted group rate, typically between \$220 and \$250 per night.

State and local government employees who are accepted into the program:

- Must become a member of FES which has an annual cost of \$200 for engineers serving in the public sector,
- May apply for a scholarship through FES and ACEC Florida to cover the cost of tuition, and
- May book a room outside the room block at the government per diem rate.

## **Eligibility and Selection Criteria**

Candidates are selected based on their own merit, including professional experience, engagement in FES and/or ACEC Florida, community service and character.

Preference is given to applicants:

- a. With a minimum of ten (10) years of engineering or engineering-related experience,
- b. With a current professional registration, designation or licensure,
- c. With current membership in FES, and
- d. With significant engagement in FES and/or ACEC Florida.

The number of candidates accepted from a single firm may be limited. Each class is capped at 40 professionals.

## **Selection Process**

The Leadership Institute Steering Committee, which is comprised of one graduate from each previous class, selects applicants after reviewing, scoring and discussing applications.

| <b>Major Milestones</b>   | <b>Dates for the Class of 2027</b> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Application Released      | Wednesday, August 12               |
| Deadline to Apply         | Friday, September 4                |
| Review by Committee       | September                          |
| Notification of Decisions | Early October                      |

## **Questionnaire**

Below are the questions in the online questionnaire to help you prepare your responses.

### **I. Personal Information**

1. Name
2. Professional Designation (PE, PSM, CPA, AIA, Ph.D., etc.)
3. Mailing Address (Street, City, State, Zip)
4. Email
5. Phone Number

**II. Education, Hobbies and Special Interests**

6. List your majors, degrees and schools.
7. List major leadership positions and special honors during your post-secondary education.
8. Describe your current hobbies and special interests.

**III. Professional History**

9. How many years have you been employed in an engineering-related field?
10. Provide your principal areas of licensure
11. Provide a link to your LinkedIn account, if you have one.

**IV. Current Employment**

11. Employer (no abbreviations)
12. Job Title
13. Describe your current responsibilities and recent accomplishments.

**V. Engagement in Professional Organizations**

14. How long have you been a member of FES?
15. Is your employer a member of ACEC Florida? ☐ Yes ☐ No
16. Describe your engagement with both FES and/or ACEC Florida, including participation on committees, voluntary leadership positions and other assignments and responsibilities.
17. Describe your engagement with other business and professional organizations, past and current. Include name of the organization, position(s) held and period of affiliation.

**VI. Engagement in Community Organizations**

18. Describe your engagement with civic, charitable, educational, religious, social, athletic and other organizations. Include name of the organization or group, position(s) held and period of affiliation.
19. Describe how you exhibited leadership in one of the above organizations. If you haven't been actively involved in the past, what's changed that's motivating you to engage more with your state and community?

**VII. Political Engagement**

20. Describe your political activities, including running for and/or serving in public office.

### **VIII. Personal and Professional Aspirations**

- 22. How many hours, on average, will you commit to volunteer each month?
- 23. How do you want to make an impact on your community?
- 24. What do you hope to gain from your participation in FELI?
- 25. Have you previously applied to the Florida Engineering Leadership Institute (FELI)? If yes, what year?

### **IX. Required Documents**

Please provide all forms in PDF.

The following documents must be uploaded with the online questionnaire to complete the application:

- Professional Biography (1-2 pages highlighting education, credentials, career history, leadership roles, professional involvement, community service, and notable accomplishments)
- Two Letters of Recommendation with Completed Recommendation Forms
- Signed Statement of Personal Commitment
- Signed Statement of Employer Commitment (not required for employees of state and local government)
- Proof of membership in FES and/or ACEC Florida (screenshot of active profile, invoice for current membership year)

### **X. Certification**

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.