

# INSTITUTE for GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP



## Application for IGEL Participation – 2025 Program Year

### IGEL - A Network of Knowledgeable, Skilled Leaders

Georgia's environmental challenges require leaders from every sector who engage knowledgeably – and with trust. IGEL gathers passionate people from industry, government, advocacy, academia, community – and beyond – to participate in world-class leadership development, expert environmental education, and candid, empathetic dialogue about environmental challenges. IGEL's rigorous immersive educational experiences help equip Georgia leaders with the environmental knowledge, perspectives, and relationships they need to lead our state for decades to come.

The application process is designed to help determine who is the best fit for our next class of IGELians, and by applying you agree that you understand the goals of IGEL:

1. Fostering a deeper understanding of Georgia's environmental issues
2. Providing a candid, empathetic, confidential forum for participants to explore each other's views and motivations
3. Engaging participants in key aspects of leadership, including creative problem-solving, conflict resolution, trust building, and enhanced communication skills

### Program Details

IGEL's program is a hands-on experience that spans nine months and will take you to five different locales around Georgia. The program focuses on providing leaders with the deep knowledge, advanced skills, and expansive network needed to address Georgia's environmental challenges now and in the future.

Participants are proven leaders who represent Georgia's economic, ethnic, geographic, and institutional diversity. It's essential to represent a wide range of professions, interests, political perspectives, and experiences.

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership (IGEL) program. By completing this application form, you are agreeing to be considered for the next class of IGEL.

The 2025 Program Consists of Five Sessions\*, currently slated to be:

Date	Location
April 23-25, 2025	North Georgia
July 22-25, 2025	Southwest Georgia
September 17-19, 2025	Central Georgia
November 4-7, 2025	Coastal Georgia
January 27-29, 2026**	Metro-Atlanta

\*Note that some engagement via virtual meetings/sessions may be incorporated into the 2025 program.

\*\*Please note, the January Session includes the annual Summit Event in Atlanta on January 29, 2026.

Please complete all items on the application form to the best of your ability. If you have previously completed an IGEL application and would like to be considered for the upcoming class, please complete an updated application as additional information may be required. If you would like a copy of your previous application, please contact [info@igeleaders.org](mailto:info@igeleaders.org) and provide your current contact information and we will be happy to provide it to you.

Applications are **due by 5:00 p.m. EST on Friday, October 11, 2024**. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

As you complete the application, your responses are automatically saved on the secure survey site. When you have completed and submitted your application, you will be directed to a copy of your responses which you may then save as a pdf file. You may begin the process by clicking the “Next Page” Link at the bottom of this page.

### **Diverse Leaders with a Common Goal**

Our core experiential, educational training program brings together a group of 30 leaders from across the state of Georgia for five, engaging and interactive two-to three-day experiences throughout the course of the program year. The intense, hands-on learning and dialogue taps into the experiences of experts who will lead and explore complex environmental issues. This is not a traditional conference room experience – it is an up-close, first-hand exploration and experience that affords leaders new perspectives and develops life-long relationships.

Please review the dates of the five sessions and confirm your participation. While 100% individual participation is expected, IGEL recognizes that extraordinary emergencies and unplanned situations may occur. The Program Committee reserves the right to authorize absences as requested by the participant or impose other measures for failure to participate at the 100% level.

### **Application Instructions**

- Complete each section in full according to the directions.
- Limit answers to available space, which will not exceed 2000 characters
- No more than two letters of recommendation will be accepted.
- Read and acknowledge attendance and participation requirements as indicated in this application.
- All applicants will be notified of a decision by November 18, 2024.

Please complete your application **by 5:00 p.m. EST on October 11, 2024**. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

### IGEL Selection Criteria

Each IGEL class consists of participants from a wide range of professions, interests, political viewpoints, and experiences. All participants are evaluated and selected through a rigorous application process, with many applicants having to apply multiple times before being admitted.

- Application to IGEL is open to individuals residing within the State of Georgia
- Each class size is limited to thirty (30) participants
- Participants are selected by a committee based upon their individual merit and evaluated on the information provided on the application.
- IGEL seeks a diverse representation of organizations and individuals, to include academia, business, community, state, government, and non-profit throughout the State of Georgia,
- Applicants must have the full support of the organization represented in order to fully engage and participate for the duration of the program year.
- Attendance at each session is mandatory.
- In reviewing applications, the committee will consider the following criteria:
  - Diverse and strong volunteer or work experience
  - Policy-sharing responsibility and/or leadership experience
  - Experience and the proven ability to develop solutions to address Georgia's environmental challenges
  - Applicant's ability to make the time commitment as required by the program

Up to two letters of recommendation may be submitted, but are not required, and will be accepted up until the application deadline of October 11, 2024. **Recommendations received after the due date will not be considered.** Letters can be emailed to [info@igeleaders.org](mailto:info@igeleaders.org) or mailed directly to IGEL, Inc., P.O. Box 18841, Atlanta, GA 31126.

### Please tell us how you learned about IGEL

- Friend/co-worker
- Current IGELian
- Recommended by supervisor/organization
- Social media/LinkedIn
- IGEL Networking event
- Other

### Have you previously applied for participation in IGEL?

- Yes (if yes, please indicate the year(s) you applied)
- No

## Participant Fee

Tuition paid by each participant only partially covers the cost of instruction, materials, lodging and meals for the five sessions and the balance of the participation is subsidized by either public or private donations, in-kind gifts and/or other funds raised by the Board members and supporters of IGEL. Tuition does not cover any pre- or post-session lodging or activities.

Transportation arrangements and costs to and from each session are the responsibility of the participant and carpooling with other participants is encouraged. Costs and participation for the program are not extended to cover attendance of family members/significant others or friends.

If you are selected for the program, you will receive an invoice for your tuition, which will be due in full by December 30, 2024. **Failure to remit the full amount of the tuition due by the identified deadline will result in the acceptance of the candidate being withdrawn; however, the candidate may reapply for the next program year.**

- I acknowledge that I have read and understand the information pertaining to Tuition requirements as indicated above.

Tuition costs for each participant are determined by the category of the sponsoring organization and the information below reflects the tuition costs according to the classification.

<b>\$6,900</b>	<b>\$5,300</b>
S/C Corporations	Academia/University
LLC	501c3
Federal/State/Regional Government	501c4
501c6	Local Government

Please indicate below which tuition cost applies to your organization.

\$6,900

\$5,300

**Who will be responsible for the payment of your tuition and other expenses?**

- My employer
- I will pay my own tuition and expenses
- Both my employer and I will pay for tuition and expenses
- Other (Please explain in the box below)

A limited number of need-based scholarships\* are available for selected applicants. Selection for IGEL is made independent of financial assistance requests. These requests and grants are kept confidential and class participants are not identified as a scholarship or grant recipient.

*\*Please indicate below if you are interested in receiving information on scholarships to assist with tuition costs. There are a limited number of scholarships available based upon demonstration of need and the qualifications associated with each scholarship.*

I am interested in information on scholarships to help pay my IGEL tuition. There are limited numbers of scholarships available and they are awarded based upon demonstration of need and the qualifications of the individual.

Yes

No

\*if yes: Please indicate the amount (percentage of total tuition cost) of the scholarship that you are requesting below, along with an explanation of your need. Describe any other sources of assistance or sponsorship for IGEL you are currently pursuing or have secured. Requests not accompanied by an explanation will not be considered.

**Please provide us with the following personal information.**

Full name:

Preferred name (for Name Tag):

Primary E-mail Address:

Alternate Email Address:

Telephone Number:

Mailing address (Street number and street name or PO Box number)

Mailing address (Additional information)

City

State

Zip Code

## Professional Background/Employment

Name of your business or organization

Name of your unit, office, or department

Your title or position

## Select the option that best describes your work, business, or organizational affiliation (choose one)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Federal/State/Regional Government  | <input type="radio"/> Academia/University             |
| <input type="radio"/> Local Government                   | <input type="radio"/> Non-Profit/501c3                |
| <input type="radio"/> Architecture/Landscape/Engineering | <input type="radio"/> Agriculture/Forestry            |
| <input type="radio"/> Legal                              | <input type="radio"/> Industry/Manufacturing          |
| <input type="radio"/> Land Development/Real Estate       | <input type="radio"/> Small Business Owner            |
| <input type="radio"/> General Business/Public Entity     | <input type="radio"/> Other Business (describe below) |

## Please indicate your highest level of education

- High School
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree
- Doctorate
- Other (please describe)

- Special Awards/Honors (please list)

## Applicant Narrative and Leadership Philosophy

Your responses to the questions below will be limited to 2000 characters, including spaces.

Please provide no more than four (4) of your most significant work or life experiences within the last ten (10) years. Include the type of organization, the type of work or life experience, position(s) held and the date(s):

List no more than five (5) organizations or activities (i.e. industry associations, leadership training programs, educational experiences, volunteer activities, etc.) in which you have been involved in the past ten (10) years. Include the name of the organization, its purpose or activities, dates you were involved and the position(s) held.

Please describe any previous leadership roles you held in the last five (5) years and your key responsibilities.

What do you believe are three (3) key environmental issues in Georgia today and what do you think could be accomplished to address one of these issues?

Provide a detailed example of how you have committed yourself to understanding and aiding in the pursuit of Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in your professional or personal work.

What do you believe are the leadership skills that are most critical to addressing Georgia's environmental issues?

What specific skills or knowledge do you hope to gain from your participation in the IGEL program?

As a participant of IGEL, describe your long-term commitment to the organization and how you plan to work to advance the mission of IGEL, both as a participant and an alumni?

## Optional Demographic Data

Your answers to the next following questions assist IGEL in ensuring that participants reflect the many aspects of the diverse state of Georgia. Answering these questions are completely voluntary.

### Age Range

- 25 to 29
- 30 to 39
- 40 to 49
- 50 to 59
- 60+

### Gender

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary/third gender
- I use another term
- Prefer not to say

### Preferred pronoun

- She/Her
- He/Him
- They/Them
- I use another term
- I prefer not to answer

### Race

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Two or more races
- I prefer not to answer



## Ethnicity

- Hispanic or Latino or Spanish Origin
- Non Hispanic or Latino or Spanish Origin
- I prefer not to answer

Thank you for your application to the Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership. We always have more extremely qualified applicants than we have available spaces in the class. As such, the IGEL Board and Selections Committee takes the selection process very seriously.

Typically, the year's new class is selected in November and all applicants are informed of the decisions by November 18, 2024.

If you have additional questions about the process, you may contact us at [info@igeleaders.org](mailto:info@igeleaders.org).

Please make sure that you click on "Next Page" to finish and submit your application. You will be taken to a copy of your responses, where you can download or print that report from your browser. If you are not redirected to a copy of your responses, please let us know at [info@igeleaders.org](mailto:info@igeleaders.org).