



Frequently Asked Questions

SYMPOSIUM OVERVIEW

- [What is the Leadership Development Symposium?](#)
- [Who should attend?](#)
- [How do I register?](#)
- [Can I receive professional Continuing Education \(CE\) credit?](#)
- [Can I receive TCOLE credit for attending?](#)
- [Do I need to be able to attend every day?](#)
- [What is the cost?](#)
- [Do I pay for travel, meals, and lodging?](#)

SYMPOSIUM EXPERIENCE

- [How long is the conference?](#)
- [What are the starting and ending times?](#)
- [What do I need to bring?](#)
- [Are meals included?](#)
- [How are the Sessions structured?](#)
- [What is the dress code?](#)
- [Is photography or video recording permitted during the Symposium?](#)
- [Am I able to use social media during the Symposium?](#)
- [Are there videos of the Symposium presentations available?](#)
- [Is there a vendor show?](#)
- [Can I bring my children with me?](#)
- [Can I bring my pet to the Symposium?](#)

TRAVEL INFORMATION

- [Where is the Symposium?](#)
- [Where should I stay in San Marcos?](#)
- [Is parking available at the conference?](#)
- [How do I get around in San Marcos?](#)
- [What is there to do in San Marcos?](#)
- [Do I need to pay for my own travel expenses?](#)

OTHER INFORMATION

- [How do I become a speaker at the Symposium?](#)
- [Where can I learn the latest news on the Symposium?](#)
- [What are your social media links?](#)
- [I am a vendor, how can I support the Symposium?](#)
- [Who should I contact for other questions?](#)

SYMPOSIUM OVERVIEW

What is the Leadership Development Symposium?

The Symposium is an annual conference hosted by Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) that offers general and breakout sessions designed to enhance the leadership skills of the emergency response community. The topics focus on all aspects of leadership including management, finance, health and fitness, and accountability.

Who should attend?

The Leadership Development Symposium is for those who desire to improve their knowledge and proficiency in the realm of leadership. The Symposium is designed to provide you with leadership skills that can benefit you both professionally and personally. Leadership abilities are required in every aspect of life whether it is being a parent, a first-line supervisor, or the head of an organization. While leadership skills are difficult to measure, the Leadership Symposium hosts speakers who offer something for everyone no matter your role in an organization, a civic group, or at home.

How do I register?

Online Registration opens September 1. You will register to attend the conference. Once you arrive, you may choose specific sessions you would like to attend. A month prior to event, a conference schedule will be posted on the website where you can preview session topics. Registration closes on last day of conference.

Early Badge Pick-Up for those who register online will be available in the Conference Center on Sunday from 3:00–5:00 PM. Badge pick-up resumes Monday morning at 7:00 AM in the Conference Center.

Walk-In / Onsite Registration will be available if space allows; however, we recommend pre-registering online to expedite your check-in. If you plan to register at the conference, it is recommended that you arrive at least 30 minutes early in order to register and receive a badge.

Onsite Registration Hours

Sun	3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Mon–Tue	7:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Wed	7:00 AM – 10:00 AM



Register Online or visit [TEEX.org/Leadership-Symposium](https://teex.org/Leadership-Symposium) for more information

Can I receive professional Continuing Education (CE) credits?

Yes, you may receive CE credit for each session you attend. Each attendee will receive a badge with a bar code of your TEEX ID number. **You must ensure that your badge is scanned for every session you attend in order to receive credit.** TEEX cannot offer credit for sessions where you did not get your badge scanned. **A maximum credit of 16 hours may be earned if you attend and have your badge scanned at every session during the 2 1/2 day event.** If you are unsure if you were scanned, check your student portal account before the end of the day. No credit can be added after the event-day ends.

If you attended a session where your badge was not scanned, please complete a form with your information and the session you missed and return it to the **Scanning Help Desk** before 5:00 PM on the day of the session.

Can I receive TCOLE credit for attending?

Yes, you may be eligible to receive TCOLE credit for conference break out sessions. **You must have your badge scanned for each breakout session you attend.**

Do I need to be able to attend every day?

No, you do not have to attend all days. You will register for the entire Symposium, but will receive a certificate which reflects only the hours you attended and had your badge scanned.

What is the cost?

There is **no cost for Texas resident emergency responders** to register and attend the Symposium. Out-of-state attendees may register for a fee of \$150 each.

Do I pay for travel, meals, and lodging?

Yes, attendees of the Symposium are responsible for covering the cost of travel expenses. See the Travel Information section of the FAQ for more information.

SYMPOSIUM EXPERIENCE

How long is the conference?

The two-and-one-half day event will be held **Monday-Wednesday, Jan 8–10, 2024.**

What are the starting and ending times?

Monday, January 8	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Tuesday, January 9	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Wednesday, January 10	8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

What do I need to bring?

TEEX will provide a printed and digital program, but you should bring something to take notes on and business cards or other contact information to share with those you network with during the conference.

An online EVENT app will be available for downloading when the event begins. It includes the event schedule, speaker bios, special announcements and more.

Are meals included?

No, attendees are on their own for meals. The schedule allows plenty of time for attendees to eat lunch at a local restaurant. Hotel staff and the local Convention & Visitor's Bureau can also assist you with finding a restaurant.

TEEX will provide light refreshments between the general and breakout sessions.

How are the Sessions structured?

Monday and Tuesday: Mornings and afternoons will begin with a General Session followed by (2) 1-hour Breakout Sessions.

Wednesday: Morning will include (2) General Sessions, but there are no Breakout Sessions on Wednesday.

Breakout Sessions: Choose (2) sessions from the morning schedule and (2) sessions from the afternoon schedule. On occasion there may be a 2-part breakout session that continues through 2 time slots and may be closed to new attendees at the second half.

What is the dress code?

Attendees should wear business casual or uniforms. All sessions are held indoors. We ask that you wear professional dress and refrain from wearing clothing that is offensive or lewd.

Is photography or video recording permitted during the Symposium?

We encourage you to take photographs or videos of your experience during the Symposium. However, you are not permitted to video record the sessions. Some speakers present personal research that is copyright protected. Please tag photos or videos with #TEEXLDS2024.

Am I able to use social media during the Symposium?

Yes, we encourage you to tweet, post, or share your experiences from the Symposium via your social media platform. Again, photographs and videos are permitted, but do not record and share session presentations. Please tag comments with #TEEXLDS2024

FaceBook: [facebook.com/teexfire](https://www.facebook.com/teexfire)

Are videos of the Symposium presentations available following the event?

No, TEEX does not make presentations available following the Symposium due to copyright regulation.

Is there a vendor show?

No, there is no vendor show for the Symposium. Instead, TEEX offers several levels of sponsorships that include many marketing benefits. Contact the TEEX Leadership Program at **979-321-6215** for additional information.

Can I bring my children to attend the Symposium with me?

No, the Symposium offers leadership development training to emergency response professionals and some content presented is not appropriate for minors. In addition, depending on the age of the child, the child could create disruptions during the sessions that prevent attendees from being able to hear or concentrate on the message being delivered or could cause the presenter to lose focus on his/her topic.

Can I bring my pets to the Symposium with me?

No, the Symposium is a professional development conference and pets may become disruptive and distracting to other attendees. Service Animals specifically trained to aid a disabled person are welcome.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Where is the Symposium?

The Leadership Symposium occurs annually and location alternates between the Texas cities of Frisco and San Marcos.

The 2024 Symposium will be held at:

Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center
1001 E. McCarty Lane | San Marcos, TX 78666
512-392-6450 | www.embassysuites3.hilton.com

Where should I stay in San Marcos?

TEEX offers a hotel room block rate for attendees at the Embassy Suites. For your convenience, we recommend you stay at the host hotel room block, but it does fill up quickly so book your room as soon as possible. The room block opens on September 1 and the link can be found on TEEX website. Once the host hotel block is full, overflow hotels with courtesy room blocks are frequently available. Please check the Symposium event page for more information.

Is parking available at the conference?

Yes, there is parking at the hotel at no additional cost.

How do I get around in San Marcos?

If you don't drive a personal vehicle to the Symposium, there are local transportation options. Check with the hotel concierge for suggestions.

What is there to do in San Marcos?

For a current list of events in San Marcos, visit the Convention and Visitors Bureau website at <http://www.visitsanmarcos.com>.

Do I need to pay for my own travel expenses?

Yes, attendees of the Symposium are responsible for covering the cost of travel, meals, and lodging.

OTHER INFORMATION

How do I become a speaker at the Symposium?

In January, immediately following the event, TEEX launches a *Call for Speakers* for the Symposium. If you feel you have a relevant topic to present, please apply to be a speaker. Subscribe to the TEEX email newsletter and/or follow TEEX on social media to be alerted when the *Call for Speakers* opens.

Where can I learn the latest news on the Symposium?

The Symposium digital Newsletter is published monthly and provides updates and reminders on the event. Visit <http://teex.org/subscribe> and click on **Leadership Development Symposium**

Visit our event page on the TEEX website for the latest Symposium News:

TEEX.org/LeadershipSymposium

What are your Social Media links?

<https://www.facebook.com/teexfire/>

<https://twitter.com/teexfire>



Subscribe to the
Leadership Symposium
Newsletter

Tag your images with **#TEEXLDS2024**

I am a vendor, how can I support the Symposium?

Although there is no vendor show for the Symposium, TEEX does offer opportunities for vendors to become sponsors. Sponsorship could include product placement, breakout room videos, premium signage opportunities, hospitality suite rental and more.. Contact Sean Fay at 979-321-6215 for a complete list and additional information.

CONTACT US

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