

**Northwestern University Leadership Education Advancement Program  
(NU-LEAP) at Feinberg School of Medicine**

Application for 2025-2026

*Application Deadline: Friday, March 14, 2025*

LEAP is a program that provides a unique opportunity for faculty at Feinberg to develop as a cohort of emerging leaders who can draw on each other to leverage opportunities and solve problems as mentors, investigators, and practitioners. Participants will work with program faculty in a collaborative environment that fosters deep learning through self-awareness, skill development, and problem solving in the context of their roles as academicians.

Specific goals and benefits of LEAP are:

- Understanding your strengths and weaknesses as a leader and knowing how to bring out the best in yourself and others.
- Experimenting with your leadership and management choices to innovate, take risks, and lead change in academic medicine at our institution and nationally.
- Developing the skills necessary to lead and manage change in the context of challenges and opportunities at our institution.
- Understanding the drivers of change in academic medicine and at our institution.

**Eligibility, Expectations, & Assessment Process**

Participants must be an Assistant (at least four years in rank) or Associate Professor at Feinberg School of Medicine. The program is limited to no more than 25 participants. The program will meet once per month between September 2025 and May 2026. Each session is 4 to 5 hours (half-day), except for session II which will be a full-day retreat. Participants should also expect to spend approximately four hours monthly preparing for sessions. In addition, there will be a team project completed over the duration of this course; information on potential projects will be introduced at a program session.

Please note that attendance is mandatory for each session. Below is a schedule of all sessions. Please check your schedule to ensure you are available to attend these sessions before applying to the program.

Sep 9, 2025	Oct 14, 2025	Nov 11, 2025	Dec 9, 2025	Jan 13, 2026
2:00-6:00PM	8:30AM-6:00PM	1:00-6:00PM	1:00-6:00PM	1:00-6:00PM
Feb 10, 2026	Mar 10, 2026	Apr 14, 2026	May 12, 2026	
1:00-6:00PM	1:00-6:00PM	1:00-6:00PM	1:00-6:00PM	

**To apply, please submit:**

- A Letter of Interest (limit of 750 words). This should be an expression of why you want to be in this program.

- Your Letter of Interest should describe why you are interested in this program and how participation in this program will help you as an academician. Please link your interest in the program to a personal or professional experience.
- The letter should also include a brief description of a project or a specific change that you would like to bring about as a result of this training.
- We encourage you to be specific about your thoughts, interests, and specific project. Consider the following questions:
  - What are your interests in learning more about your strengths and challenges as a leader?
  - What do you hope to learn about leadership at academic medical centers such as Feinberg?
  - How will your participation in the program illuminate and complement your professional, service, and/or research interests?
- A nomination letter from your department chair that describes why they are nominating you for this program and how they anticipate you will benefit from the program.
- Your CV.
- A completed [LEAP Application Form](#). All the items listed above should be attached as one document to the online application form when submitted.

Final participation will be determined based on your demonstration of interest and needs assessment, and will consider the following:

- Your motivation for participation.
- Your personal goals for the program and how they relate to your career development and goals.
- What skills you would like to develop and why.
- Assembling a broad cohort that enables interaction across a range of experiences, disciplines, and institutions that comprise Feinberg's academic community.

Your complete application must be submitted via [the online application form](#) no later than 10:00PM on Friday, March 14, 2025 and addressed to: Farzaneh Sorond, Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs, Feinberg School of Medicine.

If you have any questions, please email [leap@northwestern.edu](mailto:leap@northwestern.edu).

This program is offered by the Dean's Office at the Feinberg School of Medicine and the [Center for Leadership](#) (CFL) at Northwestern University.

The LEAP program website can be found at:  
<https://www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/fao/career-development/nu-leap/index.html>.