

FUTURE

LEADERS

ACTIVE IN

GOVERNMENT

PROGRAM



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
COLUMBIA COUNTY



COLUMBIA
COUNTY

Columbia County's Board of Supervisors
invites youth to participate in the
2019-2020 F.L.A.G. Program

Coordinated by UW-Madison Extension Columbia County

Sponsorship provided by Columbia County

COLUMBIA COUNTY'S F. L. A. G. Program

What is F.L.A.G.:

As a student in F.L.A.G., you will have the opportunity to explore Columbia County, WI Legislative and local government's decision-making process along with youth from other area high schools.

The purpose of the Columbia County F.L.A.G. Program is to:

- ★ Increase youths' understanding of local government roles, responsibilities and decision-making.
- ★ Teach youth how citizens work within government to meet community needs.
- ★ Provide a platform that promotes intergenerational learning & understanding among youth, county board members, county department staff, and state legislators.
- ★ Build future civic capacity and leadership.
- ★ Increase youth's capacity to voice their opinions in the public arena.
- ★ Prepare students to connect learning outside the classroom with governing bodies that will enable students to meet the unique demands of the 21st century world.

Participants:

Students — Columbia County high school juniors & seniors recruited in early fall.

Sponsor — Columbia County Board of Supervisors will provide scholarships to all selected student candidates.

Coordinators & Instructors — UW-Madison Extension Columbia Co.

Partners — Co. Board Supervisors, Co. Departments, Extension Specialists, & Area High Schools*.

Expectations: * Schools or students will need to provide their own transportation.



Schools

- ★ Inform students of F.L.A.G. program opportunities & expectations.
- ★ Recruit and nominate students who have an enhanced interest in politics, current events, history, government and public policy/engagement.

Students

- ★ Have a heightened interest to learn & experience the in's and out's of local government;
- ★ **Make every effort to attend all sessions and be on time;**
- ★ Be respectful to fellow participants, instructors and guests;
- ★ Come prepared for each session and dress appropriately — business casual;
- ★ Be a member of a “Capstone” team; and,
- ★ Be present, willing to engage and connect positively to the F.L.A.G. challenge!

2019-2020 F.L.A.G. Draft Program Schedule

Eight Monthly Sessions October to April

Session Dates & Time 8:00am-2:30pm	Session Focus & Meeting Location Columbia County Law Enforcement Center, downstairs meeting room, 711 E. Cook St., Portage, WI
Oct. 23, 2019 ☐	F.L.A.G. Kick-off; Real Colors; Team Building; Expectations; Discover Who's Your Supervisor & Invite to 11/12 lunch; In the News & Opinion Line (I-t-N & OL)
Nov. 12th (Tues.)	Supervisor Interviews & Lunch; Government Around the Clock; What is a Public Good & Being a Public Servant; Identify Public Issues that Matter, Explore Job Shadow Opportunities; I-t-N & OL
Dec. 4th ☐	Speed-dating; Team Building; Capstone Projects; I-t-N & OL
Dec. 18th ☐	Day at the Office & Job Shadow; Capstone Projects; Pubic Issue Professional Interviews; I-t-N & OL
Jan. 15, 2020	Community Planning Simulation; Capstone Projects; I-t-N & OL
Feb. 12th Madison	Going to the Capitol: WI Counties Association—Developing message points around public issues; Communicating with Your Legislator
March 11th	Capstone Public Issues Open House & Lunch; I-t-N & OL
April 21st Tues., session ends @ 1:30	County Board Breakfast & Capstone Glimps, On the Floor; Recruiting 2020-2021 Coaches; & Graduation
April (TBA)	American Legion County Government Day (optional)



2018-2019 F.L.A.G. Class



Above: 2018-2019 F.L.A.G. participants at during job shadow with courts and district attorney's office ; below, students interviewing public issue professionals as part of capstone project.



"Be the change you want to see in the world." -- Gandhi

Student Testimonials:

- *"I thought that this was a great year for FLAG. I really think that with all of the things we've done this year, I've gained amazing leadership and communication skills. I also came back for a second year because I thought FLAG was really interesting."*
- *"I do feel that I learned more about my local government. Being able to job shadow, and meet with people from the county helped me to learn what actually happens within the county. Also, the time we spent meeting with the legislators was very informative. Throughout this experience FLAG helped increase my level of understanding government ..."*
- *"...I wanted to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the FLAG program over the past two years. I am excited to let you know that the program played a significant role in my decision to major in political science at Edgewood College. I was wondering if you knew of any ways that I could more actively participate in my local government as a college student... I would love to have a position that gives me experience in my field, especially after making so many connections through FLAG." — 2015-2017 FLAG coach/student*



For additional information contact:

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