

CITIZENS ACADEMY MISSION STATEMENT

To improve citizens' understanding of the workings of effective government and encourage their involvement in the community to help sustain quality of life for present and future generations

Participants will:

- gain a deeper understanding of how local governments work together;
- meet government leaders and department heads;
- learn about government operations through direct exposure to experts in the field;
- understand how citizens can become engaged in public affairs;
- learn about opportunities for community-based partnerships and programs;
- serve as role models for other community residents interested in social change;
- help foster an environment that contributes to the quality of life for all citizens; and
- help build a livable, sustainable community.

CITIZENS ACADEMY

For more information, call FOCUS
Greater Syracuse at 315.448.8732
focus@syrgov.net

Visit us on the web:
citizensacademyny.org



“Being part of the Citizens Academy was a great experience. Everyone learns so much, and it deepens understanding of news about important issues in our community.”

—Stan Linhorst
Leadership columnist, founder of
Syracuse.com, and retired
senior managing editor of
The Post-Standard

CITIZENS ACADEMY

September 5 - October 31, 2018



- > Find out how your local government works.
- > Learn about how you can join with local government leaders to effect change.
- > Help create the future of your community.

Sponsored by:

Syracuse University



FOCUS
GREATER SYRACUSE

NATIONAL AWARD-WINNING CITIZENS ACADEMY 2018

The Citizens Academy is an interactive educational program that informs citizens about how local governments are organized and how services are funded and delivered. It is a place to learn about citizen involvement through an integrated approach to economic vitality, social equity, and a healthy environment.

Sessions are held on Wednesday evenings:

- September 5, 12, 26 (no class September 19)
- October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

5:30-8 p.m. at various government and community facilities. Some sessions will include tours of the facilities. Tours will begin at 4:15 p.m. and are optional. Light supper will be provided.

Fee is \$50, due in two payments September 1 and October 1. Limited scholarships available upon request.

The Citizens Academy is open to all who live or work in Onondaga County and are 18 years of age and older. Class will be limited to 35 members.

WHAT OUR ALUMNI SAY:

"My experience with Citizens Academy was excellent! From a broad perspective, learning the inner workings of government was eye opening and has added context to how I vote! I would highly recommend Citizens Academy to the community!"

—Ahmeed Turner

Executive Director, Say Yes to Education Syracuse

"I enjoyed all the sessions and learned a lot about government. I look forward to using and sharing what I've learned with the people I meet and the work I do. I've met some great people, and the whole experience has enriched my life."

—Annemarie Deegan

Administrative Officer, Syracuse Parks & Recreation Department



YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR FUTURE

SESSION TOPICS:

- **Overview and Expectations**
Local governments past, present, and future
- **What's in the Plan for Sustainability**
Planning, land use, and transportation
- **Economic Vitality**
Jobs and economic development
- **Community Vitality**
Community development, health, and human services
- **Environmental Stewardship**
Water and waste management
- **Schools, Scholars, and Resources**
Education and the future
- **Public Safety**
Law enforcement and public safety
- **Dollars and Sense**
Local government budget and finance

CITIZENS ACADEMY APPLICATION

Please APPLY ONLINE at citizensacademy.org or complete and mail an application to:

FOCUS Greater Syracuse
201 E. Washington St., Suite 704
Syracuse, NY 13202-1427

Please print legibly:

Name

Home Address

City/State/ZIP

Daytime/evening phone

Cell phone

Email address

Employer/Organization

Business address

City/State/ZIP

Occupation/position

Preferred mailing address home business

Scholarship requested

Please attach a separate page to respond to the following questions. Reviewers are looking for well-developed answers that go beyond one sentence.

1. Why are you interested in participating in the Academy?
2. How do you plan to use what you learn?
3. What are your current community activities?
4. How long have you lived or worked in Onondaga County?
5. How did you hear about Citizens Academy?

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2018