

OHIO LEADERSHIP ACADEMY STUDENT GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION: Welcome to the Ohio Leadership Academy, sponsored by the American Baptist Churches of Ohio and the Cleveland Baptist Association. The educational journey, upon which you are embarking, is an important one. Trusting that you have heard God's call to further your opportunity in ministry, your commitment to the principles and purposes of the Leadership Academy will be expected, especially in the area of attendance, ethics, worship and personal interaction with others. We trust that your involvement in the Academy will be challenging as well as rewarding. May God bless you in your endeavor as you seek and follow His will.

FACILITIES: The Cleveland cohort of the Academy meets at the CBA Mission Center on the Fairhill Partners campus at 12200 Fairhill Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44120.

- 1) Please respect the campus facilities. We would welcome volunteers at the end of the day on Saturday to help clean up the rooms, pick up trash, straighten chairs and put everything back as we found it.
- 2) Lunches will be provided as well as coffee and snacks as appropriate.
- 3) We gather for worship and opening exercises every Friday evening of each Intensive at 6:00 PM. We expect all students to attend as worshipping our God is an essential part of our preparation for ministry!

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS:

- 1) **CLASS ATTENDANCE:** The Academy gathers for Orientation and four Intensives on the second full weekend of Sept (12), November (3-4), January (8-9 with snow date on the 15th and 16th), March (4-5) and May (3-4). Attendance is mandatory. If you are unable to attend the Orientation or an Intensive, make prior arrangements with the Academy Coordinator. If you wish to be promoted to the next cycle or to graduate, we can excuse only **ONE** absence in the year, since that accounts for 25% of the year.
- 2) **ASSIGNMENTS:** You are to meet the expectations of the instructor.
- 3) **GRADING:** will be on a scale of **unsatisfactory/satisfactory** and **excellent**, with **satisfactory (or passing)** being the norm if the Instructors' expectations are met.
- 4) **PLAGIARISM:** Institutions of Learning abhor plagiarism, which Merriam Webster dictionary defines as “. . . to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own; to use (another's production) without crediting the source.” **DON'T DO IT!**

REGISTRATION: Students are responsible for registration for the following year. Please see the Academy Registrar before the end of the last Intensive.

GRADUATION: We have been celebrating the graduation of our students on the Orientation Day in September and a diploma is awarded after the third year students have completed their work. One of the important reasons to attend the Orientation Day is to celebrate with them the completion of the program.

ORDINATION PROCESS: The Ohio Leadership Academy is designed to provide leadership training for local church leaders. It is not designed as a substitute for seminary. Therefore the completion of work toward a diploma from the Ohio Leadership Academy does not automatically lead to ordination! Some graduates, especially gifted by God, have been called to serve as pastors of local churches. At the present time, a graduate may seek ordination only **after three years of ministerial experience.**