



# Frequently Asked Questions

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## 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 for attending the conference. Once you arrive, you may choose which sessions you would like to attend. In December, a conference schedule will be posted on the website where you can preview session topics. Online Registration closes the end of December.

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

**Walk-In / Onsite Registration will be available;** however, we recommend pre-registering online to expedite the check-in process. 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

### 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 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.

### Can I receive TCOLE credit for attending?

**Yes**, you may receive TCOLE credit for each session you attend. **You must ensure that your badge is scanned for every session you attend in order to receive credit.**

### 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 **January 20–22, 2020**.

### What are the starting and ending times?

Monday, January 20	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Tuesday, January 21	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Wednesday, January 22	8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

### What do I need to bring?

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

### Are meals included?

**No**, attendees are on their own for meals. The schedule allows plenty of time for attendees to either eat lunch at the hotel or 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.

## **Where can I see photos that were taken by TEEX during the Symposium?**

Photos are uploaded to the TEEX Flickr account at [TEEX.org/photos](https://www.flickr.com/photos/teex/)

## **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 video are permitted, but do not video and share session presentations.

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 979-845-5562 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.

## **TRAVEL INFORMATION**

### **Where is the Symposium?**

The Leadership Symposium occurs each January and location alternates between Frisco, Texas and San Marcos, Texas.

The 2020 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](http://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 hotel in a room block, but it does fill up quickly so book your room as soon as possible. The room block opens on June 1. Check the TEEX website for hotel block link 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.toursanmarcos.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?**

Each spring, TEEEX 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 TEEEX email listservs and/or follow TEEEX on social media to be alerted when the *Call for Speakers* is opened.

### **Where can I learn the latest news on the Symposium?**

The Symposium eNewsletter is published 6 times a year and provides updates and reminders on the event. Visit <http://teex.org/subscribe> and click on **Fire Service Leadership Symposium**

Visit our event page on the TEEEX website for the latest Symposium News:  
[TEEX.org/LeadershipSymposium](http://teex.org/LeadershipSymposium)

### **What are your Social Media links?**

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

<https://twitter.com/teexfire>

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

Although there is no vendor show for the Symposium, TEEEX does offer opportunities for vendors to sponsor either breakout rooms, hospitality suites, or refreshment tables. Contact Robert Barron at 979-845-5562 for additional information.

## **CONTACT US**

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