



City of Lowell Municipal Government Academy Citizen Academy Requirements



The City of Lowell will hold a Citizens Academy each year to provide the citizens of the city with a more in-depth understanding of municipal government. The 10-session course provides an in-depth view of all City of Lowell operations and is offered once a year. Each new session begins in January of each year with a graduation ceremony in the spring. The program is free.

The City of Lowell Citizen's Academy's purpose is to provide a forum where participants can develop a basic understanding of municipal government, learn the duties of the various city departments. This includes meeting the people behind the scenes of the City Departments to understand what makes the City of Lowell a great place to live, work, and play.

During the sessions, citizens will meet various personnel within city government, take tours, and gain valuable knowledge of the operations and the importance of their involvement in the governmental process.

Requirements

- Applicant must be a resident of the City of Lowell and show proof with a valid North Carolina License or a valid North Carolina ID card. The applicant must have reliable transportation.
- Must be 16 years old or older to attend the academy.
- Participants may miss no more than two sessions. Participants are required to be at the kick-off session and at graduation in order to successfully complete the program. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review the Academy dates to ensure they can meet attendance requirements. Any participant who misses more than two sessions will be withdrawn from the program. Exceptions may be made for specific circumstances by contacting the City Clerk in advance.
- Participants must sign a release form and will be subject to a criminal background check for the optional police ride-a-long. Participants under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian signature on the release form. No citizen with a felony conviction will be allowed to attend the ride-a-long. No citizen with a misdemeanor conviction within the last three years, excluding traffic convictions, will be allowed to attend the ride-a-long.
- The academy kick-off will be at the first Council meeting in January and the sessions will be held every other week beginning at either 5:30pm or 6pm. The academy kick-off and board/committee sessions will be held at 5:30pm in order for citizens to be introduced to City Council or board/committee members before the 6pm meetings. Please see the schedule for the other scheduled dates.
- The deadline for application submission is December 22, 2023. Please keep in mind that we have limited space and can only provide for up to 15 participants. It will be on a first come, first serve basis.