STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN
Your Practice. Our Purpose®

G. LANE WARE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

2026-27

ACADEMY OVERVIEW AND INTEREST FORM INSTRUCTIONS

The State Bar of Wisconsin is currently accepting Interest Forms for the 2026-27 G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy. **The deadline to submit an Interest Form is Monday, September 14, 2026.** Submitted forms will be read by a review committee. All candidates will be notified of the review committee's decision no later than **Friday, October 2, 2026.**

The G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy is a multi-session training program designed to enhance leadership skills, to inspire leadership involvement, to build professional networks, and foster the professional development among lawyers. The mission of the Leadership Academy is:

> To provide a diverse and inclusive group of lawyers essential leadership skills, strategies, and resources empowering them to become effective leaders in their careers; their local and state bar associations; their local communities and organizations; and the legal profession.

In support of its Mission, the Leadership Academy will strive to:

> Identify and train lawyers who can be called upon by the State Bar of Wisconsin, state and local government entities, local bar associations, and community organizations to serve through participation and leadership.
>
> Nurture effective leadership with respect to ethics and professionalism, resulting in raised ethical standards and improved reputation of lawyers in the community.
>
> Create opportunities for lawyers to build mutually beneficial, meaningful relationships with other lawyer leaders, thereby improving their professional development, confidence, and satisfaction.

The G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy is open to all State Bar of Wisconsin members in good standing. Members with some history of leadership or involvement within a state or local bar, their community, their offices, and/or the legal profession are encouraged to apply. The ideal candidate has practiced in the range of 5-7 years or more, has practical experience to draw upon, and is looking at career growth through some type of leadership opportunity.

Leaders and members of local and specialty bars; the State Bar of Wisconsin's divisions, sections, committees, and Board of Governors; the judiciary, and law firms should encourage qualified lawyers to apply.

The Leadership Academy will consist of three separate training sessions occurring across a six-month period as follows:

- **Friday, November 13, 2026** (8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) and
  Saturday, November 14, 2026 (8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

- **Friday, January 22, 2027** (8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) and
  Saturday, January 23, 2027 (8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

- **Friday, April 16, 2027** (8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) and
  Saturday, April 17, 2027 (8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
  (Includes Luncheon and G. Lane Ware Leadership Keynote Address)

Attendance at all three Academy sessions is required. All three sessions will be held at the State Bar Center in Madison, Wisconsin. The program will be submitted for five CLE credits; you will be notified of the number of credits when approved.

Participants will be required to provide **$425.00** as payment for the 2026-27 Leadership Academy tuition. The tuition payment includes any breakfasts and lunches served during the sessions; however, participants will be responsible for their travel expenses and accommodations to attend the sessions. Tuition payments must be paid on or before **Friday, October 9, 2026**. Payments can be made as follows:

- By check or money order, made payable to ***State Bar of Wisconsin*** mailed and received by due date; include: ***Attn: Accounting Department*** on envelope and check.
- By credit card payment by phoning the Customer Service Department at 800-728-7788.

If a participant's required tuition payment is not received on or before the payment deadline, the participant will not be permitted to attend the 2026-27 Leadership Academy.

Need-based scholarships for tuition are available on the basis of financial need. To be considered for a scholarship from the State Bar of Wisconsin, a request should accompany your Interest Form providing an explanation for the request. All candidates are considered equally whether or not the candidate is requesting a scholarship.

COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING THE INTEREST FORM

Completing and Submitting the Interest Form. Please complete the Interest Form in its entirety. Discuss your interest with your employer, if applicable, and review the Academy program commitment requirements. Your participation during all three sessions of the Academy program is mandatory. Additionally, your employer, if applicable, must sign the Interest Form, endorsing your participation in the three Academy sessions.

Please complete the **2026-27 G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy Interest Form** found at www.wisbar.org/la. Save your form to your local device (computer, laptop, or tablet) for completion outside of the web browser. Submit your completed form, including any materials and resume as an attachment to an email addressed to Beth Drake at bdrake@wisbar.org. In the alternative, you may print out and submit your completed Interest Form, including any attachments, via U.S. Mail to: State Bar of Wisconsin, ATTN: Beth Drake, 5302 Eastpark Blvd., Madison, WI 53718-2101. Please note additional time will be necessary to meet the deadline if submitted by mail.

Interest Forms must be received by the State Bar of Wisconsin on or before **Monday, September 14, 2026**. Incomplete Interest Forms will not be accepted, and late Interest Forms will not be considered. Notices regarding selection status will be sent no later than **Friday, October 2, 2026.**

Submitting Attachments. If you need additional space beyond what is provided in the Interest Form, you may attach up to two (2) extra pages. Please include your current resume and, if applicable, a statement explaining your need for a scholarship. All attachments must be submitted with your Interest Form.

Questions about the Interest Form. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Drake at 1-608-250-6171 or bdrake@wisbar.org.

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G. LANE WARE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

2026-27 INTEREST FORM

Note: Please consider that your Interest Form and materials will be seen by reviewers and others. Do not include truly personal or confidential information you do not wish to be shared.

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Bar Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street or P.O. Box

_____
City State Zip

PREFERRED CONTACT INFORMATION:

Telephone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

The State Bar of Wisconsin is committed to having a broad range of participants in each Leadership Academy class including varying beliefs, experiences, interests, and viewpoints. Please provide information about yourself for the Review Committee to consider what you bring to contribute to this year's class. For example, you may want to provide information about how you would add a unique perspective to the class.

**If response box runs out of room, you may attach up to two additional sheets to your Interest Form. Clearly identify continued comments for reviewers to follow.*

II. PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Date of admission to practice law: _____

State(s) where admitted: _____

Practice area(s): _____

☐ **A copy of my current resume is attached.**

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT/EMPLOYER:

Current Firm/Organization:

_____

Position: _____

Address: _____

_____

Telephone Fax E-mail Address

ACADEMY DATES

- Friday, November 13, 2026 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 14, 2026 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.;
- Friday, January 22, 2027 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, January 23, 2027 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.;
- Friday, April 16, 2027 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 17, 2027 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Endorsement of Participation by Current Employer, if Applicable

I hereby endorse ’s interest in the G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy and will fully support their participation. I understand that attendance at every session is mandatory, and that they must attend every session in order to be eligible for completing the Leadership Academy.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

III. LEADERSHIP GOALS

Please describe your personal goals for developing leadership skills and applying these skills to impact the legal environment in Wisconsin.*

IV. COMMUNITY/VOLUNTEER/BAR ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Please describe your past and present community/volunteer/bar association activities. Please provide the name(s) of the organization(s), positions held, dates of involvement, your leadership activities and reasons for your involvement in the organization.*

**If response box runs out of room, you may attach up to two additional sheets to your Interest Form. Clearly identify continued comments for reviewers to follow.*

I understand that attendance at every session is mandatory (dates listed on page two), and that I must attend every session in order to be eligible to complete the Academy.

Signature of Applicant	Date
Signature of Employer *(if applicable)*	Date

Submitting Attachments: If you need additional space beyond what is provided in the Interest Form, you may attach up to two (2) extra pages. Please include your current resume and, if applicable, a statement explaining your need for a scholarship. All attachments must be submitted along with your Interest Form.

Deadlines: Interest Forms must be received by the State Bar of Wisconsin on or before **Mon., September 14, 2026**. Incomplete Interest Forms will not be accepted and late Interest Forms will not be considered. Submitted materials will be read by a Review Committee. All candidates will be notified no later than **Fri. October 2, 2026.**

Where to Submit: Please submit your Interest Form and materials to:

- **By email: bdrake@wisbar.org** *(preferred)*
- **Or by postal service:** State Bar of Wisconsin, Attn: Beth Drake, P.O. Box 7158, Madison, WI 53707-7158

Scholarships: There are a limited number of need-based scholarships available. If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please provide an explanation of need on a separate sheet of paper. All candidates are considered equally, whether or not you apply for a scholarship.

☐ **I have attached a request for scholarship to my Interest Form.**

2026-27 Leadership Academy Dates & Deadlines:	
SESSION DATES: • **Fri. November 13 & Sat. November 14, 2026** • **Fri. January 22 & Sat. January 23, 2027** • **Fri. April 16 & Sat. April 17, 2027**	**SESSION DEADLINES:** • **Mon. Sept. 14, 2026: Completed Materials Due** • **Fri. Oct. 2, 2026: Notification of Review Outcome** • **Fri. Oct. 9, 2026: Registration Fee Deadline**