2027 Society Leadership Program
Call for Applications

DUE 1 December 2026 First Review Cycle. DUE 7 January 2027 (If there are any available positions)

The Society Leadership Program (SLP) is designed to inspire and develop our future leaders in military psychology. Participants will attend leadership training, receive mentoring, and complete a capstone leadership project related to the Society for Military Psychology's mission and current initiatives. Students in the program will attend the Midyear Executive Committee (EXCOM) Meeting held in February or March (in person or via teleconference), attend the American Psychological Association (APA) Convention, be provided readings and mentorship, with a focus on developing leadership potential in broadly defined diverse and global contexts. Outcomes of the capstone leadership projects will be presented at the APA Annual Convention. We expect graduates of SLP to make a commitment to future service on Society committees, as elected officers in the Society, and as leaders and advocates in a variety of positions in APA, their places of employment, and society at large.

We invite psychology doctoral students and Early Career Psychologists (ECP; 10 years or less since doctorate) who are interested in and committed to leadership in the Society to apply for the SLP. By training a diverse group of participants, the SLP will help develop the Society's next generation of leaders and contribute to the future of military psychology. By pairing future leaders with current Society leaders, the SLP hopes to create opportunities for graduates to take the next steps toward leadership.

Components of the Society Leadership Program

1. Participants will take an online leadership assessment.
2. Participants should engage with their project and mentor NLT January and will receive feedback on their leadership assessment by August.
3. Participate in approximately 19-20 sixty-ninety minute-long virtual lessons with faculty and peers.
4. Participants will develop leadership project proposals with their mentors for Society Leadership Program Committee/EXCOM approval NLT 1 March.
5. Lead one hour-long journal session with faculty and peers on a journal article related to capstone leadership project (May-June).
6. Design, conduct, and complete a capstone project that contributes to a current Society initiative (e.g., EXCOM, Committee, and Working Groups) with the help of a mentor. Participants should complete the majority of the project by July for presentation at APA.
7. Participants and their mentors will meet regularly to review program readings and capstone project status (February to July).
8. Observe the Society's EXCOM and business meetings and participate in joint activities with EXCOM members in person or via teleconference.
8. Participants will present capstone leadership project updates during the APA convention in (August).
9. Participate in Society leadership activities and events at the APA Convention.
10. Participants and mentors will finalize the capstone project. Participants may write a capstone leadership project paper summary for publication in the Fall Newsletter. Mentors will provide participants with leadership feedback and an action plan for their future with the Society.
11. In order to receive funding for the APA convention and graduate from the program, students must

complete course assignments and leader assessment requirements.

Learning Outcomes

The Society Leadership Program is designed to help participants:

- Understand the structure and function of leadership positions in the Society
- Assess one's own leadership style using various perspectives
- Observe EXCOM meetings
- Observe and participate in leadership activities
- Conceptualize and implement a SLP capstone project to be completed and presented at the APA convention
- Network and develop working relationships with Society leaders
- Identify a path to leadership within the Society and seek/obtain a leadership position

Criteria for Participation

The Society Leadership Program Committee is seeking a diverse group of students and ECPs who meet the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled student in a psychology doctoral program or a psychologist who completed doctoral degree within the last 10 years;
- A current, paid member of the Society as of the date of the application;
- Committed to making a professional impact through leadership in a diverse context (i.e. leadership situated in understanding one's own leadership abilities multiple interface in military psychology);
- Interested in pursuing leadership positions in the Society in the future;
- Available and able to attend:
    - Ten hour-long virtual lessons (live or recorded)
    - 1-day leadership Midyear EXCOM Meeting (February/March)
    - Lead and participate in journal club presentations (live or recorded)
    - **Each participant will be reimbursed for travel and lodging expenses up to $1,000** to the APA Convention. Acceptable travel expenses include coach airfare, double hotel accommodations, registration fees, and ground transportation congruent with APA travel policy;
- Committed to complete a leadership project to be presented at the APA Convention.
    - Additional SLP training will take place in August in conjunction with the Annual EXCOM Meeting and the APA Convention.

Application Procedures

To apply for the Society Leadership Program, please submit the following materials to, lifewellbeing@gmail.com and slp@militarypsych.org NLT **1 December 2026**. Your application should include:

(1) A letter of interest that is **no more than two pages** single-spaced. In this letter, please provide information about yourself and your professional identity as a psychologist or a student in the field of psychology. Briefly discuss current/previous leadership experiences *and* what you learned from them,

particularly as they relate to the diverse military psychology context. Please discuss why you would like to participate in the SLP, what you hope to gain, and how you would see yourself utilizing the SLP experience in your future work as a leader in the Society, including specific leadership roles you might like to pursue. Please also discuss ideas or areas for your capstone project, Division 19 mentors you would like to work with and have contacted, and positions you would like to serve in Division 19 on your application statement.

(2) A current curriculum vita.

(3) A letter of recommendation which specifically addresses your potential as a leader, your interpersonal skills, and your ability to complete projects successfully in a timely manner. If you are a student, please have a faculty member write this letter on your behalf. If you are an ECP, this letter could be written by a colleague or mentor.

(4) Upon acceptance, you will be asked to provide a brief bio and professional photo.

We hope to notify applicants of decisions about selection to participate in the Society Leadership Program by the end of December at the latest to ensure adequate time for booking airfare and clearing your schedule to attend designated meetings.

Please email questions to the Society Leadership Program Director at slp@militarypsych.org using the subject line *SLP QUESTION with your initials. If you have not received confirmation of your application in 24 hours send a note to this email.*

Chair and Executive Director, Ashley Markovic, PsyD, ABPP
Past Chair Maurice Sipos, PhD
Chair Select Stephen V. Bowles, PhD, ABPP
Incoming Chair Select John Eric Novsel-Lingat, PhD