

Leadership Scholars

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the specific requirements of the Leadership Scholars program?

All Leadership Scholars must create and maintain a leadership portfolio that is updated each semester to maintain your scholarship. At a minimum your portfolio will include:

- ✓ Your personal leadership goals, updated annually
- ✓ Artifacts from all required Leadership Scholars meetings
- ✓ Artifacts from three Student Leadership Institute (SLI) sessions per semester
- ✓ Reflection from your community service project participation
- ✓ Evidence of involvement in at least one student organization on campus
- ✓ Career development planning materials

What do you mean by "portfolio"?

A portfolio is an intentional, focused reflection of your experiences and what you have learned. You can choose any format that you like for your portfolio. Most Leadership Scholars choose either an ePortfolio or a hard-copy where evidence is presented in a binder or folder. You can choose whether this will be a professional portfolio that you wish to share with prospective employers, or an informal portfolio that you create for personal use only.

Are portfolios cumulative? Do we continue to add to them throughout our years at IC or do we begin again every year?

This is something that you will add to every semester you are here, so select a system that will work best for you. If you already have a portfolio created for another purpose, feel free to add to it instead of creating one just for the Leadership Scholars program.

Who else will see my portfolio?

You will present your portfolio to a reviewer and a small group of peers at the end of each semester. What you are required to present is a summary of what you have done to fulfill your Leadership Scholars requirements - however most students add more to their portfolios to enhance their presentation and really put forth a good image of themselves. Your portfolio presentation will be approximately five minutes, so you will need to be succinct.

How do I create an ePortfolio?

Information Technology Services offers a system that can be used by any Ithaca College student. You can find out more online: <http://www.ithaca.edu/computing/eportfolio/about/essentials.htm> You are welcome to create your own format, too.

What is an artifact?

Artifacts may include: written reflections, photographs, certificates, handouts, flyers, etc. These should be items that are meaningful to you, so that when you look back on them years from now it will trigger a memory of what you learned and how much you have changed during your college experience.

What are the *Weekly Updates*?

Every Monday you will receive an email from Michele with important dates and deadlines regarding program requirements, as well as a variety of suggestions for how to meet your requirements. Opportunities for leadership development, career events, service programs, etc. will be shared in this format. It is imperative that you read these messages every week to stay on top of your requirements.

What are the service project requirements?

Your service project can be either one event or an on-going project, which is totally up to you. There is no minimum hour requirement – you need to select at least one project per academic year. It is recommended that you deepen your involvement every year to get the most out of your experience. For example:

- *First year students might participate in a **philanthropic** activity, such as a food drive. This is an indirect service experience that allows you to meet the needs of a community without leaving campus.*
- *Sophomores may **volunteer** for a direct service experience (one-day or ongoing) that allows student participants to meet a community need while interacting with the population being served.*
- *Juniors might **coordinate a service project**, leading a direct service experience (one-day or ongoing) that involves recruiting volunteers, setting up the service project itself and providing reflection time for the volunteers.*
- *Seniors may organize an active experience that allows students to learn more deeply about a social issue while creating an **awareness campaign** for the campus or surrounding community.*

What are the Career development materials that I need in my portfolio?

All scholars will participate in at least one career services program during the spring semester, including a workshop, fair, meeting with counselor individually, etc. You should add an artifact from this program to your portfolio. It is recommended that all Leadership Scholars keep an updated resume, sample cover letter, and letters of recommendation in your portfolio every year.

Is there a reapplication process to be considered for the scholarship in future years or do we automatically remain in the program?

Once you present your portfolio successfully, then your scholarship will be renewed for the next semester.

What happens if I do not fulfill all of the scholarship requirements?

Your scholarship will be suspended. Contact Michele for additional information.

Where can I find out more information about portfolios?

There is more information about developing a portfolio on our Leadership Scholars IC Link page, so be sure to check that out. You will also get many good ideas by seeing what your peers present in December... the most creative ideas usually come when you see what another Leadership Scholar has done and it prompts you to add something new to your portfolio for next time!

Of course, you can always contact Michele to ask additional questions. Make sure that you feel confident that you know how to be a successful Leadership Scholar!

How do I contact the program director?

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