

The Leadership Academy For Deans and Directors

Founded in 1986, the National Association of Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work (NADD) is a volunteer membership organization dedicated to promoting leadership and excellence in social work education. Our membership is composed of more than 200 deans, directors, and chairpersons of graduate social work programs in the United States and Canada. NADD supports its members in their professional development and effectiveness as academic administrators.

One of NADD's goals is to build leadership skills. One way to build leadership is to engage Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work. As a program of NADD, the Leadership Academy for Deans and Directors (LADD) assists social work deans and directors to further develop as leaders. Since its inception, 150 deans and directors have participated in the LADD. We are currently accepting applicants for the 16th Cohort of the LADD.

LEADERSHIP GOALS

By participating in the program deans and directors will grow as individuals and will have the opportunity to:

- Discuss different models of leadership and leadership styles
- Appraise their own unique leadership strengths and areas of growth
- Strengthen their capacity as leaders and their leadership and management skills
- Develop a useable strategic leadership plan
- Participate in a supportive network of peer leaders

ELEMENTS OF THE PROGRAM

Leadership Development: Finding your leadership voice. Understanding how to match leadership styles to leadership challenges. Articulating and advancing your leadership agenda.

Skill-building: Advancing your leadership skills in vision setting, communication, faculty relations, time management.

Mentorship: Receive mentorship and coaching from the LADD leadership team

Peer Learning and Support: Ongoing communication with current cohort of participants

who serve as a network for continuing learning and consultation beyond the year's program.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

Session 1: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 (full day; 8 am – 5 pm) and Thursday, October 23, 2025 (half day; 8 am – 12 pm) (in conjunction with CSWE Annual Conference, Denver, CO)

Session 2: Monday, January 12, 2026 (half day; 1 pm – 5 pm) and Tuesday, January 13, 2026 (full day; 8 am – 5 pm) (in conjunction with SSWR Conference, Washington, DC)

Session 3: Saturday, April 11, 2026 (half day; 1 pm – 5 pm) and Sunday, April 12, 2026 (full day; 8 am – 5 pm) (in conjunction with NADD 2026 Spring Conference, Miami, FL)

Session 4: Thursday, June 25, 2026 (half day; 1 pm – 5 pm) and Friday, June 26, 2026 (full day; 8 am – 5 pm), location: TBD

Individual consultation: Available upon request

COST

- There is a \$1900 fee per participant.
- Participants will need to cover travel costs, involving airfare, ground transportation, hotel, and some meals.

NOTE: There are some limited travel scholarships available (2 hotel nights for Sessions 3 and 4 only), please inquire by contacting Vitali Chamov, Manager, NADD and LADD Leadership Initiatives National Association of Deans and Directors, vchamov@cswe.org.

HOW TO APPLY

All deans, directors and chairs of social work schools and programs are invited to apply. Please submit the following materials as e-mail attachments to Vitali Chamov at: vchamov@cswe.org.

- A personal statement (approximately 750 words) in which you discuss:
 - Why you accepted your leadership role.
 - What you hope to accomplish in LADD that you believe is key to your effectiveness over the next 12 months.

- Letter of support, including commitment for the time and costs from your supervisor.
- Curriculum vitae.

Application deadline is Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Participants will be contacted by Monday, August 18, 2025

For more information, please contact LADD Co-Directors Nancy Meyer-Adams, Nancy.Meyer-Adams@csulb.edu Director and Professor, or Marianne Yoshioka, Dean and Professor myoshioka@smith.edu.