

Youth Development Learning Path

NMOST convened a second working group of OST Leadership Institute graduates to identify courses and create pathways for OST program staff. This group created two pathways: Youth Development and Family Engagement. The Youth Development learning path includes 6 required courses and 12 total hours of instruction. You must complete all required learning path hours to receive a certificate.

Courses in the Learning Path

Course Number

Course Title

Summary

1

School Age Care as a Family Service: Emphasis on Relationship Building

Course goals include exploring the varied interests, needs, wants, and concerns of parents and guardians of children and youth in after-school programs, examining attitudes toward parents and guardians and how staff attitudes affect the ability to build positive relationships with parents and guardians, and exploring tools for assessing the needs and interests of parents and guardians in after-school programs.

2

Exploring Four Areas of School-Age Development

OR

Youth Development Trends: Focus on Older Youth (Choose One)

Course goals include gaining an understanding of four major areas of development in school-age children: Physical Development, Cognitive Development, Social Development, and Emotional Development and exploring the link between four areas of development and the implications for planning and implementing out-of-school programs for school-age children.

OR

Course goals include promoting the understanding of the developmental needs of early adolescents and exploring the trend from problem-focused youth development initiatives to positive youth development initiatives.

3

The Role of Staff in Behavior Guidance: Middle and High School Students
OR
The Role of Staff Behavior in Elementary Students (Choose One)

By the end of this course, you will be able to understand your reactions to the behaviors of children and youth, and learn to use this information to respond more effectively and learn to use behavior guidance strategies at the appropriate time.

Learning Paths



Course
Number

Course Title

Summary

4

**Human Relations Skills
Development: Focus on Leadership
Styles and Conflict Management**

Course goals include promoting understanding of different leadership styles and skills that can enhance the effectiveness of after-school program staff, investigating specific strategies for applying the different leadership styles in after-school program settings, and exploring five different styles of conflict management and strategies for diagnosing and managing conflict effectively.

5

**Guiding the Behavior of Individual
Children**

Course goals include exploring a variety of positive approaches to guiding the behavior of individual children and youth in school-age programs, exploring strategies for creating a program environment that encourages positive behavior, and fostering an understanding of common causes of conflict in school-age programs and learn strategies for avoiding, minimizing, and managing conflicts when they do occur.

6

Providing Homework Support

Course goals include examining research and explore strategies for planning and implementing effective homework support programs, examining diverse perspectives on homework, including those of parents, participants, staff, and school personnel and identifying models and characteristics of after-school environments that promote meaningful engagement in homework activities for children and youth.

Apply to join LEAP Today!

Reach out to
lgates@nmost.org with
any questions about
LEAP

