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Adriana Díaz, Communications Manager  
312-376-1766 x226  
312-860-5120 (cell)  
[adiaz@latinopolicyforum.org](mailto:adiaz@latinopolicyforum.org)



**Building a shared future, call for applications: Illinois Latino Nonprofit Leadership Academy**

**Chicago—March 11, 2014**—The Latino Policy Forum invites professionals to apply for the sixth cohort of its Illinois Latino Nonprofit Leadership Academy, an intensive nine-month program that integrates innovative leadership strategies. The deadline is April 30.

“The transformational times we’re living in call for new leadership paradigms,” said Sylvia Puente, executive director of the Latino Policy Forum. “The Academy is keeping pace with these changes by promoting a collaborative culture of leadership.”

The Academy provides an opportunity for two individuals---an executive-level and an emerging leader---from up to 10 selected organizations to build personal and organizational leadership skills. Participants affiliated with Latino-serving nonprofits are invited to apply as well. Applications are available online at [www.latinopolicyforum.org](http://www.latinopolicyforum.org).

Participants complete a series of three retreat sessions, receive one-on-one technical assistance and mentoring tailored to their organizations’ needs, and enjoy networking opportunities with an Academy alumni network of more than 125 local nonprofit leaders.

Full and partial scholarships are available to cover the cost of the program, distributed based on the quality of the application as well as the particular needs of the organization.

The sixth cohort of the Academy will begin in August of 2014 and run through May 2015. An applicant information session will be held on *Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 2:00pm* at 180 N. Michigan, 6th floor conference room, Chicago. Interested parties must RSVP to [aocchoa@latinopolicyforum.org](mailto:aocchoa@latinopolicyforum.org).

Organizations must be Illinois-based and have a 501 (c)3 status or fiscal agent to be considered. Suburban and downstate organizations are strongly encouraged to apply.

**About the Latino Policy Forum**

The Latino Policy Forum is the only organization in the Chicago area that facilitates the involvement of Latinos at all levels of public decision-making. The Forum conducts analysis to inform, influence and lead. Its goals are to improve education outcomes, advocate for affordable housing, promote just immigration policies, and engage diverse sectors of the community, with an understanding that advancing Latinos advances a shared future. For more information, visit [www.latinopolicyforum.org](http://www.latinopolicyforum.org).

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