

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 4, 2025

TO: Deans, Chairs and School Directors

FROM: John Bertot, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs
Laura Rosenthal, Director for Faculty Leadership

SUBJECT: Call for Nominations: Big Ten Academic Alliance Academic Leadership Program, 2025-2026

The Office of the Provost encourages each college to nominate at least one tenured faculty member for participation in the Big Ten Academic Alliance Academic Leadership Program (ALP). Colleges that nominate multiple candidates are encouraged to rank order them. Nominees should include current administrators and/or faculty members who have demonstrated administrative promise and a desire to pursue leadership opportunities. The goal of this program is to develop outstanding leaders from within our institution. While faculty members can benefit from this program at any level of leadership, the program aims to create cohorts potentially qualified for and curious about serving at the highest levels of university leadership. Big Ten Academic Alliance institutions have found this to be a valuable program, with many ALP Leadership Scholars taking key leadership positions at Big Ten institutions. The Provost will provide funding support for up to five individuals to participate in the 2025-2026 Academic Leadership Program. The eligibility criteria are listed below.

To learn more about the Big Ten Academic Alliance ALP, visit the website at <http://www.btaa.org/leadership/alp/introduction>.

Program Background

Established in 1989, the ALP develops the leadership and executive skills of academic administrators and faculty members on Big Ten Academic Alliance campuses. The ALP specializes in cultivating leadership skills for administration at major research universities. Participants also gain a clearer understanding of the challenges currently facing such institutions.

Program Expectations

ALP 25-26 will take place entirely in person, except for one welcome session on Zoom. In addition to the three seminars at BIG 10 university locations, meetings on leadership topics and with various University of Maryland leaders will also be held on campus, in person, at a time that considers the schedules of the selected participants (ALP Scholars). ALP scholars should expect to meet on campus about twice monthly on average.

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| Welcome Session | September 19, 2025 | Zoom (time TBA) |
| Seminar I | October 9-11, 2025 | Indiana University |
| Seminar II | February 12-14, 2026 | University of Illinois |
| Seminar III | April 16-18, 2026 | University of Iowa |

Participants must be available to attend all of the seminars to be eligible.

ALP scholars are also encouraged to attend on-campus New Administrator Orientation and Academic Leadership Forums.

Eligibility

Nominees should be tenured faculty members at the University of Maryland, normally at the level of Professor. Nominees should have demonstrated an interest in and potential for academic leadership. While there is a preference in the program for full professors, associate professors may also be nominated. Nominators may also make a special case for a particular faculty member on the professional track. Usually, this is someone already in a leadership position whose development would benefit their unit. The University of Maryland is committed to training a diverse community of leaders. We encourage nominations that contribute to that goal.

Nomination Process

Deans should work with their college's APT and awards manager to upload the following nomination materials to the APA system via faculty.umd.edu/apa by **May 1, 2025**

- Letter from the applicant explaining why they would like to participate in the Academic Leadership Program and how the applicant will use this opportunity to benefit the University at any level (2-page limit).
- Letter of nomination from the Dean.

Materials should be combined into a single, searchable PDF document.

Criteria for Selection

- Evidence of academic excellence.
- Evidence of interest in academic administration, leadership issues, or challenges in higher education. Having a current formal leadership role is not a criterion for selection.
- Ability to present a coherent statement of the program's professional benefits, as well as the benefits to the University and the academic unit. Preference will be shown to nominees who describe how the training will benefit the unit and/or the institution.
- Endorsement from the Dean.

A committee of Associate Provosts will recommend candidates to the Provost, who makes the final selection.

Questions may be directed to either Laura Rosenthal (lrosent1@umd.edu) or John Bertot (x54252, jbortot@umd.edu).