

# Georgia REALTORS® 2026 Leadership Academy

Training Today, Leading Tomorrow



Emerging leaders of today will guide the REALTOR® organization into tomorrow! Going into its 20th year, GAR will continue the tradition of training 25 individuals who will be selected from scores of applicants for leadership opportunities in the REALTOR® organization and beyond.

Candidates who may best serve as a local or state leader in the future are selected based on their track record of volunteer performance for their local board and/or civic organizations, and their personal integrity.

GAR invites you to complete and submit the application contained in this brochure for your chance to be a part of the next generation of REALTOR® leaders.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: **October 15, 2025**

# 2026 GAR Leadership Academy Application

Full Name:

Date:

Name for Name Badge:

NRDS Number (if known):

Year Licensed:

Company:

Office Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Office Phone:

Office Fax:

Cell Phone:

Local Board:

Home Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Home Phone:

E-mail Address:

For questions below, add additional pages as needed.

Local Board Positions for 2025:

Civic Activities:

Why do you want to be considered for the GAR Leadership Academy?

What do you feel are the three most significant challenges facing the real estate profession today?

What specific skills/knowledge do you hope to gain from your participation in the GAR Leadership Academy?

I understand that attendance at the meetings and functions identified in this brochure is expected and I agree to complete the reading assignments prior to each meeting and the post-session evaluation after each meeting.

Signature:

Date:

Tuition of \$650.00 or payment arrangements must be paid at the time of application and will be refunded in full if applicant is not accepted. There is a cap of 25 individuals for the Leadership Academy. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance on or before December 1, 2025. After successful completion of the program, the \$650.00 fee will be refunded to graduates or the entity that paid the tuition for the applicant.

If paying by credit card, please indicate card type:

Check

Credit Card

American Express

MasterCard

Visa

Name on Card:

Card Number:

Expiration Date:

Billing Address:

Signature:

Date:

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*Completed application and payment must be received by GAR no later than October 15, 2025.*

*Send to:*

2025 Georgia REALTORS® Leadership Academy

6065 Barfield Road

Atlanta, GA 30328

- OR -

Email to: [ppittman@garealtor.com](mailto:ppittman@garealtor.com)



Thank you for applying to be a part of  
the 2026 Georgia REALTORS®  
Leadership Academy!

# 2026 Leadership Academy Events

Training Today, Leading Tomorrow

## Leadership Essentials

*2026 Inaugural Conference, Monday, February 16, 2026*

International speaker Bob Harris, CAE, will guide you through the qualities of a leader, goal setting, governing documents, legal liability, fiduciary duty, and creative thinking. This session includes a networking lunch with the 2026 Georgia REALTORS® Leadership Team.

## Bias Override: Overcoming Barriers to Fair Housing

*Savannah Area REALTORS®, Thursday, March 19, 2026*

Sharon Miller will facilitate Bias Override: Overcoming Barriers to Fair Housing, a NAR certificate course that helps real estate professionals interrupt stereotypical thinking so they can avoid fair housing pitfalls and provide equal professional service to every customer or client. Participants will learn about the mind science of identity, study how implicit bias can result in fair housing violations and engage in interactive exercises to enhance communication skills and business relationships with clients of all backgrounds. This course does carry three hours of CE credit.

## Public Speaking for Leaders

*REALTORS® of Greater Augusta, Thursday, April 23, 2026*

National speaker Juanita McDowell will guide you through communication essentials for REALTOR® Association Leadership.

## Executive Committee Meeting

*Georgia REALTORS® Headquarters, Friday, June 5, 2026*

Join the 2026 Georgia REALTORS® Executive Committee as a guest to see the leadership in action. Leadership Academy participants are invited to join the committee for a networking lunch. \*\*All participants will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement. \*\*

## Parliamentary Procedures/ Emotional Intelligence

*Georgia REALTORS® Headquarters, Thursday, August 13, 2026*

We will start the day walking you through how the association is governed by an examination of Robert's Rules of Order, meeting management, agendas and minutes. That afternoon, Michele Pirkle will train you on Emotional Intelligence (EI) and how understanding EI will enhance your leadership skills and put you a path to becoming a better leader.

## Not-for-Profit Finances / GAR Immersion Day

*Georgia REALTORS® Headquarters, Thursday, October 15, 2026*

Begin the day with Cathy Strobeck, CPA. This session will develop your ability to appropriately interpret financial statements used by non-profit organizations and how they differ from for-profit financial reporting. During the afternoon session, you will meet with the GAR Staff and hear how each department facilitates the staff-volunteer partnership.

## Advocacy Day

*Georgia REALTORS® Healey Building Atlanta Office, November 19, 2026*

Start your day with the Governmental Affairs Team! Tour the Georgia REALTORS® Healey Building space and possibly hear from Legislators throughout the day.

\*\* Dates and locations listed above are subject to change.

## \*\*REQUIREMENTS TO COMPLETE THE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY PROGRAM\*\*

(Leadership Academy Recognition will be held at the 2026 Inaugural Conference Awards Presentation)

- Attend at least six of the seven sessions
  - \*\* Attendance is required at Bias Override, March 19, 2026.
    - Bias Override may be taken at an alternate location. Proof of attendance/completion within the past 3 years (March 2023 – March 2026) will be required.
- Become C2EX endorsed by NAR NXT 2026 (November 4th, 2026)
- Attend GAR's Inaugural and Annual Conference in 2026
- Complete one of the NAR L.E.A.D Courses <https://www.nar.realtor/education/leadership-development/realtor-lead-courses/realtor-lead-building-blocks-course>
  - Building Blocks: Grow Leadership Skills
  - Roadmap: Advancing Your Leadership Journey
  - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion