



## PROSPECTIVE MEMBER SCHOOL INFORMATION

### 2018-19 ACADEMIC YEAR

#### Who we are:

The Public Leadership Education Network (PLEN) is the only national organization with the sole focus of preparing college women for leadership in the public policy arena.

#### What we do:

Each year, PLEN brings college women from across the country to Washington, D.C. to experience first-hand how public policy is made. We focus each seminar on policy fields such as science, technology, the law, or international relations so that our students are prepared with the specialized knowledge, skills, and connections that they need to successfully launch their policy careers. Students meet and learn from women leaders who influence public policy at the highest levels in Congress, the courts, federal agencies, the executive branch, the corporate sector, policy research, advocacy organizations, and the news media. These women leaders serve as teachers and mentors who share advice about starting out in the policy world.

#### Where we came from:

Founded in 1978 by a consortium of women's colleges, PLEN has served thousands of women since our first Women & Public Policy Seminar in 1983. Now, PLEN brings nearly 300 students to Washington, DC each year through six seminars. In recent years, 45 percent of our students are women of color or from groups under-represented in the policy arena. Additionally, nontraditional students who attend use this experience to launch a new career. PLEN members include some of the nation's oldest women's colleges such as Barnard College, Mount Holyoke College, and Smith College and co-educational institutions with a commitment to advancing women's leadership such as Rutgers University and Tulane University.

#### Why we do it:

Women are still significantly under-represented in this country's public decision-making process, and as members of legislative bodies, the courts, government agencies, nonprofit groups, and private corporations that impact policy. College women who participate in our programs are uniquely prepared to enter the public leadership pipeline because of their experience with PLEN. As a national leadership organization committed to educating and training the next generation of women leaders, PLEN and our members share the conviction that programs designed specifically for women are critical to the development of women leaders in our society.

#### 2017-18 Seminar Schedule:

October 18-20, 2018:

*Women, Law, & Legal Advocacy*

November 1-3, 2018:

*Women in Health Policy*

January 7-11, 2019:

*Women in Public Policy*

January 14-18, 2019:

*Women in STEM Policy*

March 18-22, 2019:

*Women in Congress*

May 20-24, 2019:

*Women in Global Policy*

## 8 Reasons to Become a PLEN Member Institution:

- 1) Complement on-campus curriculum with real-world skill building and career networking experiences in Washington, D.C.** Our unique career launching programs strongly influence our participants, with eight out of ten students saying their PLEN experience will strongly influence their academic and career decisions. Our “small class size” allows students to interact one-on-one with policy professionals.
- 2) Serve students’ growing interest in public sector careers and public service.** Now more than ever, college women are pursuing public leadership careers and see participation in PLEN programs as critical to achieving their goals. Our high-quality programming offers students the chance to explore a variety of possible careers and learn what it takes to get there.
- 3) Join a network of preeminent academic institutions across the country committed to advancing women’s leadership.** Students from member schools have the unique opportunity to meet with their peers from across the country while participating in a seminar in Washington, D.C. And PLEN Campus Representatives at each member school can create national connections with like-minded higher education administrators through PLEN.
- 4) Help students gain an advantage in applying for jobs and graduate school.** According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 60 percent of Americans get their job through networking. PLEN’s rich and diverse network of alumnae, speakers, and other volunteers provide our students with life-long career resources, support, and mentorship.
- 5) Access the PLEN alumnae network.** Notable active PLEN alumnae include Alejandra Ceja, Director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics; Christine Turner, Former Director at National Security Council; Kathee Facchiano, Chief of Staff, Office of Congressman Clay Higgins (LA-03); and Laurie Halverson, State House Representative, Minnesota.
- 6) Realize considerable financial savings.** Students at member institutions enjoy discounts between 25 and 50 percent off the normal cost of attending a PLEN seminar. The annual membership fee is small compared to the cost to a single institution of establishing similar high quality program offerings.
- 7) Gain a recruiting edge.** You can make prospective students aware of the array of opportunities available to them as a PLEN member institution. Parents will be keenly interested in the career connections offered to their daughters through direct contact with women leaders who open career doors and serve as mentors. Member schools can showcase the connections students make through PLEN by featuring program schedules and photos of students meeting with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the Under Secretary of Education Martha Kanter, as well as women members of the U.S. House of Representatives and United States Senate in admission and alumni publications.
- 8) Connect students with other alumni in Washington, DC.** Many of our students love to be connected to alumni of their own institutions while attending a seminar. This helps them deepen their commitment to your institution and think of it as a place that helped them get ahead.



## **Membership Fees and Benefits:**

Students from PLEN member institutions receive discounts on all PLEN seminars. Membership is open to all women's or co-educational colleges and universities as well as specific departments, institutes or programs of those institutions.

### **Full Member School Dues: \$3,000 per year**

#### *Benefits:*

- 50% off seminar fees
- Opportunity to connect with over 4,000 PLEN alumnae
- Opportunity to participate in group conference calls with other member schools
- Recruitment resources and templates

### **Associate Member School Dues: \$1,500 per year (up to 3 years)\***

#### *Benefits:*

- 25% off seminar fees
- Opportunity to connect with over 4,000 PLEN alumnae
- Opportunity to participate in group conference calls with other member schools
- Recruitment resources and templates

*\*Once a school reaches its 3<sup>rd</sup> year of associate membership, it must decide whether to transition into a full member institution or to keep sending students individually but at full cost.*

### **Consortium Member School Dues: \$5,000 per year\***

#### *Benefits:*

- 50% off seminar fees
- Opportunity to connect with over 4,000 PLEN alumnae
- Allows schools to share resources and still reap the benefits of PLEN membership
- Opportunity to participate in group conference calls with other member schools
- Recruitment resources and templates
- Invitations to exclusive DC events

*\*No more than 3 schools may join as part of a consortium membership. Consortium members must designate one PLEN Member Representative to represent the consortium.*

# PLEN

Preparing Women to Lead

## 2018-2019 Member School Application

College/University Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Point of Contact

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Department/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Women's College or Co-Educational Institution? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Undergraduate Students (and Graduate if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Percentage of Undergraduate Students Identifying as Female: \_\_\_\_\_

### I am applying for:

Full Membership (\$3,000 per year)

Associate Membership (\$1,500 per year)

Consortium Membership (\$5,000 per year)

**If different than Point of Contact, please note below to whom invoices should be sent in care of.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please scan and return to Sarah Bruno, Executive Director at [sbruno@plen.org](mailto:sbruno@plen.org) or mail to  
1875 Connecticut Avenue NW, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington DC 20009.

Thank you for your interest in becoming a PLEN member institution!