

# Ricci Leadership Academy

## Student Application Questions Spring 2026 (for Academic Year 2026-2027)

### Overview

Please respond to the **two prompts** below with an answer of approximately 200-300 words for each prompt. Use proper grammar, spelling, and ensure that you use complete sentences. Generative AI may not be used for this application, but you may use tools for proofreading, grammar and spelling checks. Keep in mind there is no right answer here, we are trying to assess your level of interest and determine why you are interested in the program. **Past leadership experience is not required or preferred.**

Please submit your **essay responses to the email below by May 22, 2026**. If you have a conflict and need an extension on that date, be sure to request that accommodation by email ahead of the deadline by sending an email to the mailbox listed below.

### Prompts

#### 1. Respond to one of the following prompts:

- A. Do you see yourself as a leader today? If so, what experiences have you had that support your belief? What have you enjoyed, and what have you found challenging about leadership?
- Conversely, if you do not yet see yourself as a leader today, why do you want to participate in a leadership academy? What do you hope to get out of the experience?

#### 2. Respond to the following prompt:

- Reflect on a mentor or leader that you have had and whom you admire. This may be a family member, a coach or teacher, a boss or faith leader. Explain the context for your interaction and define why you view this person as a mentor or leader. Be sure to provide examples of the qualities or attributes they displayed that led to your admiration.

If you have any questions, please send an email to: [cob.leadershipacademy@oregonstate.edu](mailto:cob.leadershipacademy@oregonstate.edu) or contact Elizabeth French directly ([elizabeth.french@oregonstate.edu](mailto:elizabeth.french@oregonstate.edu)).