

# EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM



Dear Prospective Applicant,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association (IRTBA), I am pleased to invite you to invest in your future and join the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP). The purpose of this program, which is in its seventeenth year, is to develop emerging leaders from member firms for active participation in the industry. This exciting program is designed to educate exceptional individuals about transportation issues of today and the future. As a class, you will see the “big picture” of the industry – learning everything from working with agencies and local government, to the economy of the industry.

The ELP is designed to expose emerging leaders to industry issues once a month for a full-day of educational sessions. The group will meet once a month from October to May, with meetings held at the IRTBA office and various member offices throughout the Chicagoland area. Business leaders and speakers from academic institutions, member companies, and public agencies will address the class. The highlight of the program is a trip to Washington, D.C. to meet with national leaders and legislators.

To become a member of this dynamic group, interested candidates are encouraged to complete the online application form. The application must include a letter of recommendation from management within your company, resume and professional headshot. Only completed application packets will be considered. Upon acceptance to the ELP, the members will attend a “Kickoff Reception” on Thursday, August 28, 2025. This event will be held prior to the IRTBA General Membership Meeting. Additional program details will be provided to the class after acceptance.

The overall program will offer emerging leaders the opportunity to interact with established leaders and network with fellow emerging leaders in the program, with the hope of continuing our efforts to advance and promote the future of the transportation industry. **Please submit your application online at [www.irtba.org/emerging-leaders-program](http://www.irtba.org/emerging-leaders-program) by Friday, July 25, 2025 to be considered for the program.** Applicants will be notified of their acceptance by Friday, August 8, 2025.

We look forward to working with the future of our industry – the emerging leaders of today.

Sincerely,

Michael Paine  
Chair, IRTBA Board of Directors