



Cleveland Council on
WORLD AFFAIRS

CCWA GLOBAL AMBASSADORS

Explore the World and Expand your Global Perspective with CCWA!

Leadership. Impact. The World. CCWA's *Global Ambassadors* program for young professionals sparks global connections during an unforgettable global study trip and leadership development program. Be a part of Cleveland's global future and join us for the 2025-2026 program!

Global Leadership Grounded in Local Community

The Global Ambassadors program is a transformative year-long global leadership and professional development program for emerging leaders in Northeast Ohio. The program explores opportunities and challenges for global cities and strengthens the participants' global competencies. The program combines CCWA's interactive global leadership course (LEADS) with an international study tour to two European cities to explore business, social, and policy issues that resonate with Northeast Ohio's emerging professional leaders.

Imagining Cleveland's Global Future

Global Ambassadors will participate in CCWA's LEADS global leadership program to strengthen leadership development, cultural competency, and global awareness. Participants will meet weekly during the 8-week course in fall 2025 to explore how they can shape Northeast Ohio through a more global lens.

In winter-spring 2026, Global Ambassadors will participate in a series of roundtables to discuss economic development, sustainability, and community building to prepare for travel to two European cities in May 2026 to widen their global perspectives on these issues. The study trip will explore economic development, sustainability, and community building through professional meetings, networking with young professionals in Europe, and cultural experiences. After travel, Global Ambassadors will engage in debrief activities to reflect on lessons learned to bring back to Greater Cleveland.

Join CCWA and Become a Global Ambassador

Are you a young professional interested in shaping Northeast Ohio through a more global lens? Are you ready to explore the world and expand your perspective? Do you want to be a leader in today's globalized world? If yes, this program is for you!



Who is eligible?

CCWA will select participants based on applications. The cohort will reflect Cleveland's diversity, including diversity of professional backgrounds across sectors. To be considered eligible for the program, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Must be a resident of Northeast Ohio between the ages of 25-35 years old, with a minimum of 5 years of professional work experience; we will not accept applications from full-time students.
- Must have a valid passport through November 2026. Applicants are responsible for passport and other travel requirements.
- Must be available to travel to Europe during the study trip on May 1-9, 2026.
- Must participate in eight pre-departure LEADS sessions, on Mondays from 5:30-7:30pm from September 29-November 17, 2025; six pre-departure workshops in Spring 2026; and one debrief session after the international study trip.
- Must commit to active participation in the *Global Ambassadors* alumni group after completion of the program.

What is the cost?

The program cost is \$10,000. Thanks to foundation support, CCWA is able to offer near-full scholarships for selected Global Ambassadors. Participants from non-profit sector receive priority for scholarships. Scholarship participants must submit a \$500 tuition fee for the program. Participants may also apply to the program by paying the full program fee. Included for all participants are all pre- and post-departure programming in Cleveland (30 hours of instruction). During the study trip, participants' airfare, accommodations, three meals per day, in-country transportation, and in-country meetings with professional resources are all covered by the program.

How do I apply?

To apply, complete your application at ccwa.org by July 6, 2025. For more information, contact Elizabeth Colvin at ecolvin@ccwa.org.

Program Requirements:

LEADS GLOBAL LEADERSHIP COURSE Monday evenings, September 29- November 17, 2025:

- Who Am I as a Leader?
- Cleveland & The Global Economy
- Social & Political Change Around the Globe
- How Culture Affects Worldview
- Strategies for a Culturally Diverse World
- Global Crisis Management
- Diplomacy in Practice
- Reflections for Global Professionals

PRE-DEPARTURE WORKSHOPS Spring 2026 (dates TBD)

- A series of four thematic roundtables to discuss economic development, sustainability, and community building issues
- Two orientation sessions focused on Finnish and Spanish business culture

INTERNATIONAL STUDY TOUR May 1-9, 2026

- Travel to two European cities

DEBRIEF AND REFLECTION June 2026 (date TBD)

- Debrief and reflection event