



**Leadership by Design Program
Application Guide
For fall 2023 LBD Admissions (LBD Cohort 2023)**

This Application Guide provides answers to common questions relating to the 2023 admissions process for the Leadership by Design (LBD) program. Prospective LBD applicants and their parents may print/download this document for ready and convenient reference.

Q1: APPLICATION: *How do I apply for admission into the Leadership by Design program?*

A1: First, take the time to read this Application Guide. If you meet the application criteria, complete the 2023 application form using this link: [Leadership by Design 2023 Application](#)

Q2: WHY BLACK YOUTH: *Why does the LBD program target Black youth?*

A2: The LBD program is based on the view that Black students can achieve at the highest levels if given an array of success-enhancing opportunities that are generally available to others. Hence, the LBD leadership-development program is an intervention intended to offset historical disadvantages, and enhance the personal, social, academic and career success of Black youth. The LBD program will offer leadership skills, higher-order skills, and a platform of encouragement – all given to enabling promising Black youth optimize their talents, fulfil their highest ambitions and become outstanding citizens.

Q3: WHO: *Who should apply for fall 2023 admission into the Leadership by Design program?*

A3: Only students who are enrolled in Grade 10 in September 2023 will be considered for admission into the Leadership by Design (LBD) program. Otherwise stated, students can only enter LBD as they enter Grade 10.

Students in Grades 9, 11 and 12, who are interested in benefitting from the LBD program during academic year 2023-24, may participate as LBD Guest Students. Refer to *Questions 15, 16 and 17* for more about the LBD Guest Student opportunity.

You should apply for fall 2023 admission if you meet all the application criteria below.

1. You voluntarily self-identify as Black or Black African-Canadian. (*Your lived experience is that of a Black person.*)
2. You will be enrolled in Grade 10 during the academic year 2023-2024 (*i.e., the academic year which begins September 2023*).
3. You are academically promising and willing to pursue the opportunities LBD provides.
4. You are willing and able to attend Toronto-based in-person sessions on selected Saturdays. (*While this requirement better meets the convenience of students who reside in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA), we will consider keen candidates residing beyond the GTHA.*)
5. You are a Canadian citizen or Permanent Resident of Canada.

Q4: CONFIRM WHO COMPLETES THE APPLICATION: *Should the prospective applicant and parent(s) share a full discussion about applying for the LBD program?*

A4: We recommend applicant-parent discussions. It's never good if the parent applies on behalf of the student...without the student's participation.

The applying student must know that the LBD program is intense and challenging. Applying students must be:

- motivated to achieve personal, social, academic and career success,
- open to learning new things,
- interested in exploring new environments and collaborating with other students,
- committed to attending scheduled in-person and virtual events, and
- be willing to be held to a high standard.

The parents or guardians of applying students must be willing to be supportive of the student's participation in LBD. It takes motivated parents to transport students to LBD sessions of scheduled Saturdays. The LBD program works best with motivated students and parents.

Q5: STUDENT'S EMAIL ADDRESS & MOBILE NUMBER: *Why do we communicate directly with both students and parents?*

A5: We want students to be effective communicators. This means reading their emails and responding as required. Hence, we collect each applicant's email address and mobile number. Most emails to students are copied to parents.

Q6: AREA OF RESIDENCE: *Does it matter where I live?*

A6: Most in-person programming for LBD is held in Toronto – usually at university or corporate sites with ample parking and convenient access to public transit (TTC & GO Transit). Residents of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) will likely find these meeting locations convenient. While students residing beyond the GTHA will be able to participate in LBD virtual activities, they may find it inconvenient to travel to in-person Toronto-based meetings. We are prepared to accept eligible candidates who reside beyond the GTHA, providing they are willing to attend in-person activities.

Q7: DEADLINES: *Are there application deadlines?*

A7: Yes! The final application deadline is [Friday, September 15, 2023 \(11.59 p.m.\)](#). This extended deadline provides a window for high school administrators and teachers to encourage newly enrolled fall 2023 Grade 10 students to apply for the LBD program.

At this time, we encourage the submission of applications by students who have just completed Grade 9 and who will start Grade 10 in September. We are open for applications throughout summer 2023.

Consider: Rolling Admissions (throughout the summer)

Once final grades for your Grade 9 courses are available, you should apply. Do not delay applying since we review applications as they arrive - on a rolling basis. Instead of collecting everyone's application, reviewing them, and sending out notifications *en masse*, LBD will consider applications as they arrive. The sooner you apply, the better

Consider: Final Application Deadline: Friday, September 15, 2023 (11.59 p.m.)

This deadline allows high school administrators and teachers to recommend applications from Grade 10 candidates returning to school, and who are unaware of the LBD program.

Q8: APPLICATION PROCESS: *What are the basic application steps?*

A8: Step 1: Before applying, carefully read the program information (see *website*) plus this application guide.

Step 2: Discuss with your parents or legal guardians your intent to apply for the Leadership by Design (LBD) program. They must be fully aware and supportive of your application.

Step 3: Complete and submit (online) your LBD Application. Ensure the data you provide is accurate and complete. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Q9: ADMISSIONS CRITERIA: *What are the basic criteria for determining admissibility?*

A9: We recognize the Leadership by Design program is not right for everyone. We make every effort to admit qualified candidates. There are four steps in the LBD admissions-decision process:

Step 1: We evaluate each applicant's data. We place significance on the numeric grades you achieved for four Grade 9 courses (English, mathematics, science, and geography), plus other information that points to a good match between you and the LBD program.

Step 2: If considered eligible for admission in Step 1, you (accompanied by a parent or legal guardian) will be invited to a mandatory in-person admissions orientation session. This orientation will ensure both students and parents acquire a deep understanding of the LBD program and are well positioned to commit to the program.

Step 3: Following the orientation session, applicants deemed admissible will be advised via email. Both the applicant and parent(s) will be notified.

Step 4: The parent or legal guardian of a student offered admission must complete a 'parental consent form' by a given deadline.

Applicants who are not eligible for admission into the LBD program will be invited to apply for LBD Guest Student status. Refer to *Questions 15, 16 and 17* for more about the LBD Guest Student opportunity.

Q10: NOTIFICATION OF DECISION: *How will I be informed about my admissions status?*

A10: The student applicant and parent(s) will be advised of our admissions decision via email. This takes place after completion of the orientation session. Candidates denied admission will also be advised via email. Please monitor your email.

Q11: GRADE 9 REPORT: *Are applicants required to provide academic records such as grade reports?*

A11: Students invited to the applicant orientation session will be required to provide a photocopy of their final Grade 9 grade report card.

Q12: SPECIALIZED HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM: *The application form asks if the applicant is enrolled in a specialized high school program (e.g., IB, AP). Will this information be used to determine admission?*

A12: No. We only collect this data for research purposes.

Q13: SPECIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES: *The application form invites candidates to reveal interest in 'special learning opportunities'. What's the process for enrolling in one of these activities?*

A13: We ask applicants to indicate interest in one or more 'special learning opportunities'. This provides us with early indication of interest and facilitates our planning. At a later date, admitted students will be provided with details about each 'special learning opportunity', and will be given a process for enrolling. Special learning opportunities include:

- Pursue STEM (offered in collaboration with University of Toronto) [Pursue STEM \(utoronto.ca\)](https://utoronto.ca)
- Pursue Coding
- Pursue Business & Entrepreneurship ([Link to Pursue Entrepreneurship video](#))
- Telescopes & Astronomy

- French Language Enrichment

Q14: PARENT CONSENT FORM: *Parents or guardians of admitted students are required to sign a consent form. Can you provide more details about this?*

A14: Parents/guardians partner with the LBD program in working towards the personal, social, academic, and career success of students. Participating students who are under age 18 are deemed Vulnerable Persons *by law* and both the LBD program and parents share a duty to protect the well-being of students. Part of this involves up-front communication and understandings. The parental-consent language supports this as well as the effective administration of the LBD program.

Q15: GUEST STUDENT STATUS: *Can you provide more information about Guest Student Status?*

A15: We restrict LBD admission to only Grade 10 students because the LBD program works on a 'cohort system' – students in the same Grade cohort progress lock-step through Grades 10, 11 and 12. We wish we could admit students from any high school grade. However, our resources and program methodology do not allow for this. Nevertheless, there are certain LBD activities and services which can be extended to Black youth who are not formally enrolled in LBD. We are prepared to make these services available under a new experimental program called *Guest Student*.

Guest Student status provides some LBD programming to Black students who are, for certain reasons, ineligible to formally enroll in the LBD program. These reasons include:

- the student is in Grade 10 but is not offered admission into LBD,
- the student is in Grade 9 in fall 2023 and would like to experience some LBD programming in preparation for an application in fall 2024, or
- the student is in Grade 11 or 12, has missed the admissions window for the LBD program, but would like to benefit from some LBD programming and services.

Q16: GUEST STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES: *What kind of LBD programming and services will be available to LBD Guest Students?*

A16: Many LBD programming and service opportunities will be made available to Guest Students. These include:

- a flow of information, via email to students and parents, regarding a wide array of opportunities (e.g. community events, bulletins, readings, theatre events, material that encourages intellectual curiosity; etc.),
- invitations to join some workshops, conferences, lectures, symposia, and free skill-building courses,
- invitations to sessions to do with transition to university/college (e.g. university applications, deadlines, etc.), applying for scholarships, etc.,
- early notice about summer jobs and learning opportunities (e.g. SummerUp - <https://lileaders.com/summerup/>), and
- invitations to participate in some LBD Saturday events.

Q17: APPLYING TO BE AN LBD GUEST STUDENT. *How do Black students in Grades 9, 11 and 12 apply for Guest Student status?*

A17: By applying for Guest Student admission, you will be added to our student database and this makes it easy to sustain communications with you. To apply for Guest Student status, link to the special Guest Student application form: [LBD - Guest Student Application 2023](#)

- All Black students who apply for LBD Guest Student standing will be admitted.
- All Black students who apply for Guest Student standing, and their parents, will be invited to an online orientation session. This will allow them to hear more about the Guest Student opportunity.

Q18: PRIVACY OF PERSONAL INFORMATION: *Can you tell me what guides your collection of personal information via the LBD application form?*

A18: The information collected by the LBD application form and by the 'parental consent form' is gathered for the purpose of administering admissions into the Leadership by Design program and its associated and affiliated programs. The information will also be used for the effective administration of the Leadership by Design program, the [SummerUp Program](#), and other programs, courses, and activities which the Lifelong Leadership Institute offers in partnership or association with other entities and organizations. Should you have questions about the privacy of student information, contact admissions@lileaders.com

Q19: ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS: *Do you have additional questions?*

A19: Send additional questions to: admissions@lileaders.com

