

MSSA Elite Program

The Mid South Sign Association is accepting applications for the 2018 MSSA Elite Program. We are seeking talented, and motivated individuals with a deep desire for personal development and growth. Applicants should be committed to advancing their career as a leader in the sign industry.

The MSSA Elite Program is a leadership development program devoted to helping young leaders maximize their potential by learning advanced leadership and communication skills as well as serving as a primer for future leadership opportunities to serve on MSSA Committees and Board of Directors.

What you will learn...

1. History of the Sign Industry and the Importance of Sign Associations.
2. Parliamentary Procedures and the Bylaws of The Mid South Sign Association
3. Structure and Purposes of MSSA Board of Directors, Committees, and Programs
4. Effective Networking Skills for Social-Business Environments
5. Leadership Principles and How to Apply these to your Current Position
6. Identify and Communicate Effectively with Different Personality Types
7. Advanced Non-Verbal Communication Skills
8. How to Interact and Accomplish Goals as a Team

What you will do...

1. Be presented a certificate and recognized in front of the MSSA Membership during MSSA SignConnexion 2018 at the Beau Rivage Resort & Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi on July 20, 2018. *Includes Free SignConnexion Registration.*
2. Participate in a conference call in August of 2018.
3. Participate in a 1-day training session at the MSSA "National Sign Co. Networking Conference" at the Holiday Inn World's Fair Park in Knoxville, Tennessee on Wednesday October 3, 2018. 2-nights hotel expenses will be reimbursed by MSSA.
4. Form the MSSA Elite Committee and assign committee responsibilities
5. Work as a committee on a task set forth by the MSSA Board of Directors. Committee is expected to meet bi-weekly throughout the year via conference call and exchange email/social media communications.
6. Participate in a 1-day training session at the MSSA presents "Idea Exchange" Conference in Dickson, TN (Hotel TBD) on February 21, 2019. 2-nights hotel expenses will be reimbursed by MSSA. *Includes Free Conference Registration.*
7. Present the results of the Elite Committee's task to the MSSA Board of Directors at the MSSA presents "Idea Exchange" Conference in Dickson, TN (Hotel TBD) on February 22, 2019.
8. Be presented an award and recognized in front of the MSSA Membership at MSSA SignConnexion 2019 at the Ross Bridge Golf Resort, Birmingham, Alabama on July 26, 2019.
9. Upon completion, your name will be engraved on a plaque alongside other MSSA Elites and displayed at the MSSA Registration Desk at future conferences and conventions.
10. Upon completion, you will wear a ribbon on your name badge at all future MSSA conferences and conventions identifying you as an MSSA Elite.

What's needed to apply...

1. Complete the MSSA Elite Program Application Form and a 50-word Essay and return both via email to Karen@midsouthsign.org no later than April 13, 2018. Member company of applicant must be current on dues and have a zero balance on any invoiced expenses. Only 1 applicant per company/per year. Applicants must be age of 21 through 35 at time of application.
2. Complete and sign the MSSA Elite Applicant Commitment Form and return it via email to Karen@midsouthsign.org no later than April 13, 2018. This must be signed by applicant and employer. If applicant is an owner of the company, no second signature is required.

MSSA Elite applicants will be notified prior to April 20, 2018 of their selection status. Class sizes are limited to 5 applicants. In the likely event that there are more than 5 qualified applicants, those applicants that represent member sign companies will be given priority and a drawing may be held to limit the class size to 5.

MSSA Elite Program Application Form

Deadline:

- Completed application and commitment form must be returned by email to karen@midsouthsign.org no later than April 13, 2018.

Criteria:

- Company of employment must be a current member of MSSA.
- At time of application, all applicants must be age 21 through 35.
- Applicant must be currently working in the sign and visual communications industry.
- Only 1 applicant per member company/per year.

Please complete the following:

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Company Phone: (____) _____

Mobile Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Birth Date: _____

Attach a 500-word essay incorporating three of the five topics below:

1. What do I hope to gain from this experience?
2. What are my best personal assets and how will I implement them to improve our industry?
3. What leadership experience have I had and why am I qualified for this program?
4. What leader (coach, teacher, parent, sibling, friend, coworker, manager, author, historical figure, etc.) has had the greatest influence on my life and how?
5. How long have I been involved in MSSA and how has this influenced my career path?

Please print and complete this form. Once completed, please scan and return along with your 500-word essay via email to [Karen@midsouthsign.org](mailto:karen@midsouthsign.org).

MSSA Elite Applicant Commitment Form

It is an honor to be selected in the MSSA Elite Program and we will likely have more applicants than the limited class size of 7. We urge you to consider the time commitment that is involved and if you are not 100% committed to the participation requirements of this training program, please apply at another time so that we can appropriately fill the limited number of seats.

Time Requirements:

1. Be presented a certificate and recognized in front of the MSSA Membership during MSSA SignConnexion 2018 at the Beau Rivage Resort & Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi on July 20, 2018. *Includes Free Convention Registration.*
2. Participate in a 1-hour conference call in August of 2018.
3. Participate in a 1-day training session at the MSSA "National Sign Co. Networking Conference" at the Holiday Inn World's Fair Park in Knoxville, Tennessee on Wednesday October 3, 2018. 2-nights hotel expenses will be reimbursed by MSSA. *Includes Free Conference Registration.*
4. Work as a committee on a task set forth by the MSSA Board of Directors. Committee will meet regularly throughout the year via conference call and exchange email communications.
5. Participate in a 1-day training session at the MSSA presents "Idea Exchange" Conference in Dickson, TN (Hotel TBD) on February 21, 2019. 2-nights hotel expenses will be reimbursed by MSSA. *Includes Free Conference Registration.*
6. Present the results of the Elite Committee's task to the MSSA Board of Directors at the MSSA presents "Idea Exchange" Conference in Dickson, TN (Hotel TBD) on February 22, 2019.
7. Be presented an award and recognized in front of the MSSA Membership during the MSSA SignConnexion 2019 at the Ross Bridge Golf Resort, Birmingham, Alabama on July 26, 2019.

I, the undersigned, understand and accept the time commitment and responsibility of being selected as an MSSA Elite Participant and agree to the time commitment and participation requirements listed above.

Applicant Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date _____

Company Name: _____

Company Owner/Manager Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date _____