

# Emerge California Women Leaders for a Democratic Future

## 2010 California Program Application

### THE PROGRAM

The Emerge California Program (the "Program") is a non-profit political training program for Democratic women from Northern California who demonstrate an interest in running for elected office. The Program is designed to:

- Give a thorough overview of the political process and what it takes to run a successful and effective campaign;
- Practice and strengthen political leadership skills such as public speaking, fundraising, and campaigning;
- Provide direction on how to develop a network of political supporters; and
- Provide an opportunity to meet women who hold elected offices in California.

Past examples of speakers in the program have included: Speaker Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton, Senator Barbara Boxer, U.S. Congresswomen Ellen Tauscher, Barbara Lee, Jackie Speier and Lynne Woolsey, San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris, Assemblywomen Fiona Ma, Mary Hayashi, Loni Hancock, and Senators Gloria Romero, Sheila Kuehl, Christine Kehoe.

The 2010 Program will meet once a month on weekends from December 2009 to June 2010. Exact Program dates will be announced in Late Summer 2009.

The success of the Emerge California Program depends upon commitment to the Program's entire schedule by each participant. Over the seven-month period, approximately 70 Program hours are scheduled. Some time outside of regularly scheduled seminars will be necessary for seminar preparation. Emerge California participants are also required to volunteer for a minimum of 10 hours during the seven-month Program on a political campaign of their choosing.

Tuition for the Emerge California Program is \$500\*. Tuition offsets the costs of Emerge California's out-of-pocket costs for providing the weekend training sessions.

***\*Emerge California believes that individual financial circumstances should NOT be a barrier to participation in the Emerge California Program. Partial and full financial aid may be awarded after admission to the Program.***

### SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

Emerge California seeks bright, self-motivated women who are committed to effective political leadership and are committed to run for elective office.

Criteria for selection to the Program include:

- evidence of political leadership experience or potential and meaningful involvement in the workplace or community
- interest in running for political office
- demonstrated ability to bring together disparate groups to achieve a goal
- ability and desire to build effective networks
- ability to articulate a personal political vision
- demonstrated ability to inspire others
- commitment to full participation and attendance requirements of the trainings

Emerge California will select between 20- 25 women from Northern California who meet the above criteria and who we believe have the potential to be political leaders.

Emerge embraces diversity and encourages applications from all women regardless of age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, marital status, religious affiliation, sexual orientation or physical abilities.

***Deadline***

Completed **original** applications plus **five** copies (for a total of six copies all together) for the Program must be sent to EmERGE California and postmarked no later than September 21, 2009. Do not use staples for any part of the original or copies of the applications. Please see check list for full application components.

Mail to:

EmERGE California  
131 Steuart Street, Suite 300  
San Francisco, CA 94105

*\*Highly recommended to send application with a delivery confirmation or tracking number so you can make sure your application arrives in one piece on time.*

***Interviews***

EmERGE California will review completed applications and select finalists for the Program. Finalists will be invited to attend an interview at EmERGE in early November. From these interviews, the 2010 Program members will be selected.

## Application Checklist

Your file will be considered complete when all of the items listed below are received by Emerge California. Please do not submit additional letters of recommendation or any supplemental materials.

1. **Completed original application form (include all pages), as well as written responses to Political Engagement questions, and five copies of this completed application (all with no staples).**
- a. **Note: send one full original copy. For the subsequent five copies, remove pages 1, 2, 6, and 7.**
2. **Resume (no more than two pages).**
3. **Two letters of recommendation, e-mailed directly to Emerge California by your references (See recommendation letter page for more information).**
4. **\$35 non-refundable application fee (check is payable to Emerge California).**

## FOR OUR INFORMATION

To assist Emerge California in improving its program recruitment, please state how you learned about the Emerge California Program. Please be as specific as possible (may be a combination of outreach means).

~ Colleague: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Emerge Alumna: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Emerge Board/Advisory Board Member: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Political Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Elected Official: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Emerge California Website ([www.emergeca.org](http://www.emergeca.org)); \_\_\_\_\_

~ E-mail Announcement from: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Information Session: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Professor: \_\_\_\_\_

~ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Emerge California  
2010 Application**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Best e-mail to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (current profession, student, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach a professional-quality resume of no more than two pages.**

**FINANCIAL AID**

If accepted, will you be requesting financial aid for your tuition (please circle)? Yes No

**VOTING HISTORY**

Are you a registered Democrat?  Yes  No

Did you vote in the last two Democratic Primary Elections?  Yes  No

If you did not vote, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT QUESTIONS**

Please answer the following required questions:

1. Please describe your leadership role in a project within the last five years where you were responsible for achieving a goal and motivating others to achieve that goal. (500 words or less)
2. Please tell us why you would like to run for elected office and why you consider yourself a compelling candidate. (500 words or less)
  - a. *If you have already decided to, and have identified a seat and a year, or have already run for office, tell us about how you came to your decision and what office you're running or ran for.*
3. Please list your recent and current involvement with public, community, and political organizations; volunteer, paid or otherwise.

Please restate the essay question at the beginning of each essay.

\*\*\*Note that a **\$35** non-refundable application fee must be submitted by all applicants to the Program. Any financial aid awarded will not cover this application fee nor does the application fee apply to tuition if accepted.

## REFERENCES

Emerge California requires no more and no less than two letters of reference as a part of your application. Please forward the reference forms to individuals familiar with your leadership abilities and/or your commitment to political and community activities. Only the first two reference letters will be reviewed by the selection committee, any further letters received after the first two will not be considered.

**Please instruct references to e-mail letters directly to EmERGE California at [contact@emergeca.org](mailto:contact@emergeca.org) with the applicant's name in the subject line.**

**Reference letter emails are due no later than COB September 21, 2009.**

\*\*\*Accepted format for the letters: in the body of the email, Word document, PDF, no more than **two** pages.

It is the applicant's responsibility to confirm that the EmERGE California office has received your letters of reference prior to the Application deadline. Applications will not be considered complete unless they include exactly two letters of reference.

### Reference 1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (day): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

### Reference 2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (day): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Emerge California 2010 Application

### **APPLICANT RECOMMENDATION FORM**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions to the Applicant: Upon receipt of this form, Emerge California may contact your references by telephone for verification purposes. By signing below we ask that you acknowledge and agree that we have your permission to contact your references and that you are waiving any right you may have to inspect the letters of recommendation.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Send below to those writing the recommendation for you:**

The Emerge California Program is designed to:

- Give a thorough overview of the political process and what it takes to run a successful and effective campaign;
- Practice and strengthen political leadership skills such as public speaking, fundraising, and campaigning;
- Provide direction on how to develop a network of political supporters; and
- Provide a forum to meet women who hold elected offices in California.

Detailed information on the Emerge California Program can be found at [www.emergeca.org](http://www.emergeca.org).

Thank you for writing a recommendation letter for the Emerge California Program applicant named above. We seek insight into the applicant's commitment to the political process. We appreciate your candid opinion of the applicant.

To be successful in the program, applicants must possess the following:

- evidence of political leadership experience or potential, and meaningful involvement in workplace or community
- interest in running for political office
- demonstrated ability to bring together disparate groups to achieve a goal
- ability and desire to build effective networks
- ability to articulate a personal political vision
- demonstrated ability to inspire others
- commitment to full participation and attendance requirements of the trainings

Please answer the following questions and include your daytime telephone number.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
2. Please describe the traits, skills, and experiences that help make the applicant well-suited for elected office. Please provide examples.
3. How well do you think the applicant meets the requirements cited above? Does the applicant have a demonstrated history of prioritizing commitments? Please provide examples.

\*\*\*Accepted format for the letter: in the body of the email, Word document, PDF, no more than **two** pages.

Please email your recommendation letter by September 21, 2009 directly to with the applicants name in the subject line:

[contact@emergeca.org](mailto:contact@emergeca.org)

*For questions, please call 415-874-7433.*

**DECLARATION ON APPLYING**

In submitting this application, I affirm that:

I have reviewed the entire application and, to the best of my belief and knowledge, the information I have given is true and accurate. If selected for the Emerge California Program I will use the skills and knowledge gained to advance opportunities for Democratic women in the political process and interests of the Democratic Party and its candidates. Except for circumstances beyond my control, if selected, I will complete the Program in its entirety. Emerge California may dismiss me from the Program if my performance proves unsatisfactory due to lack of interest or ability, unsatisfactory attendance, progress or conduct, violation of confidences shared during the program, or for any reason deemed by Emerge California to be detrimental to the overall program.

Name of Applicant (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*I understand that if accepted into the program, my attendance is mandatory at all sessions, except in case of emergency.**

Name of Applicant (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Application Deadline: All applications must be postmarked no later than September 21, 2009. Please mail your completed application to:

Emerge California  
131 Steuart Street, Suite 300  
San Francisco, CA 94105