

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

#### 1. What is the Texas Women's Foundation Executive Leadership Accelerator?

The Executive Leadership Accelerator (ELA) is a bespoke leadership experience designed exclusively for senior-level executive women preparing for partner and C-suite roles. Grounded in research and purposefully built for deep personal and professional growth, this transformative program blends dynamic leadership development with individualized coaching and executive sponsor engagement.

## 2. Who should apply for this program?

The program is ideal for:

- Senior-level leaders with 15+ years of experience in for-profit Texas organizations who are preparing for partner and C-suite roles
- Currently leading business units or strategic initiatives with significant P&L responsibilities; and
- Identified as "ready now" or "ready next" for key leadership roles by their organizations

#### 3. What are the main benefits for participants?

# Participants will:

- Sharpen executive skills and presence through an evidence-based curriculum
- Develop actionable tools, strategies, and agency to thrive in executive leadership and amplify their impact within their organizations and communities
- Build confidence and readiness for next-level roles through personalized coaching and immersive workshops
- Expand their professional network by connecting with peers, experienced coaches, and influential executive sponsors

### 4. What is the structure and time commitment of the program?

- **Duration:** October to May (8 months)
- **Format:** Hybrid, with 4 in-person sessions (full-day workshops including kickoff and graduation) and 4 virtual sessions (2 hours each)
- Coaching: Four one-hour, individual virtual coaching sessions
- Small Group Sessions: Monthly one-hour, online accountability team meetings
- Executive Sponsor Integration: Three one-hour sponsor workshops (October, January, and May)
- Capstone Project: A powerful, cohort-based experience aligned with TXWF's mission, presented to sponsors and TXWF leaders
- Follow-up: Quarterly group calls

#### 5. What topics are covered in the curriculum?

- Leading Self: Executive presence, personal brand, emotional intelligence, resilience, inclusive leadership
- Leading Others: Influence, trust, conflict management, negotiation, feedback, team culture
- Leading Organizations: Strategic thinking, change leadership, business impact, organizational politics, coaching skills
- Community Engagement: Advocacy, board readiness, and leveraging leadership for a broader impact

#### 6. What is the role of the executive sponsor?

Each participant must be supported by an executive sponsor from their organization. Sponsors attend three 1-hour workshops (kickoff, mid-program, and graduation), help set success criteria, and champion the participant's growth and advancement throughout the program. Sponsor engagement is designed to reinforce learning and ensure organizational impact.

## 7. How is executive coaching integrated into the program?

Participants receive four hours of one-on-one, virtual coaching with a handpicked executive coach, matched through a personalized intake process. Coaching sessions focus on goal setting, leadership style, and actionable strategies for career advancement.

## 8. What networking opportunities are available?

The program offers:

- Intentional networking with cohort peers, TXWF board members, alumnae, and local leaders
- Small group learning teams for deep peer connection and accountability
- Access to a robust alumnae network for ongoing support and opportunities

### 9. What is the cost of the program?

The program fee is \$14,000 per participant. Participants can be self-paid or be sponsored by their organization. Payment installment options are available.

# 10. How do I apply?

Applications open June 17, 2025. For more information or to start your application, go to <a href="https://www.txwf.org/executiveleadershipaccelerator">www.txwf.org/executiveleadershipaccelerator</a> or contact <a href="mailto:leadership@txwf.org">leadership@txwf.org</a>.

#### 11. What outcomes can I expect?

- Sharpened leadership skills and executive presence
- Increased confidence and readiness for next-level roles
- Expanded peer and sponsor network
- Tangible impact in your organization and community as a TXWF ambassador

# 12. Who delivers the program?

The ELA is delivered by Challenger, Gray & Christmas, a firm with over 60 years of experience in leadership development. The program is led by experienced, Texas-based executive coaches with deep expertise in developing women leaders.

# 13. Who can I contact for additional questions?

For more details, reach out to the program team at <a href="mailto:leadership@txwf.org">leadership@txwf.org</a>