

# Governing Texas

counties requires dynamic leadership. Are you up to the challenge?

How you respond to the challenges of limited resources, increasing demands for services, emerging technologies, and changing demographics has effects that will reach far into the future for your county and your local residents.

The Commissioners Court Leadership Academy can help you to fulfill your potential as a dynamic leader. By building your leadership skills, you will be better equipped to meet the needs of your county, and you will learn important lessons that will last a lifetime!

*Photo courtesy of  
Texas Department of  
Transportation*

## Members of the Inaugural Class



**Don Allred**  
Oldham County Judge  
*Vega*



**Kevin Burns**  
Wise County  
Commissioner  
*Decatur*



**Richard Easingwood**  
Tom Green County  
Commissioner  
*San Angelo*



**Ronald Leck**  
Lavaca County Judge  
*Shiner*



**Kenny Mallard**  
Brazos County  
Commissioner  
*Bryan*



**Ray Meadows**  
McLennan County  
Commissioner  
*Waco*



**Dean Player**  
Leon County  
Commissioner  
*Hilltop Lakes*



**Jerry Rowden**  
Kaufman County  
Commissioner  
*Kaufman*



**Kenneth Schoen**  
Kaufman County  
Commissioner  
*Terrell*



**Charles Shofner**  
Jasper County  
Commissioner  
*Jasper*



**Gene Short**  
Grayson County  
Commissioner  
*Pottsboro*



**Bobby Smith**  
Polk County  
Commissioner  
*Onalaska*



**Frank Summers**  
Milam County Judge  
*Cameron*



**Nina Treviño**  
San Patricio County  
Commissioner  
*Sinton*



**Beth Wisenbaker**  
Hopkins County  
Commissioner  
*Sulphur Springs*

## Program Overview

The Commissioners Court Leadership Academy is a 2-year program that builds advanced skills and knowledge in pursuit of four objectives:

- ◆ To increase knowledge of the origins and varying systems of county government and the interrelationship of local, state, and national government systems.
- ◆ To develop communication and interpersonal skills to more effectively present ideas and work with community members, colleagues, the media, and other elected officials.
- ◆ To enhance personal leadership and decision-making skills to better represent and lead constituents, counties, and associations.
- ◆ To improve the ability to serve as an advocate for county issues at all levels of government.

Important expectations of all Academy participants are:

- ◆ An open and inquiring mind.
- ◆ A willingness to learn.
- ◆ A commitment to actively participate in Academy activities and experiences.
- ◆ A commitment to greater service for the betterment of Texas county government.

Academy participation requires a time commitment of 15 days during the 2-year program period. The schedule includes three 3-day sessions and one 6-day session, including travel time to and from the meeting locations.

## Selection to the Academy

Each Academy class consists of up to 24 participants. Selection is based on a competitive process in which interested county judges and commissioners apply to participate in the program.

Successful candidates for the Academy pay a tuition fee which includes all sessions, accommodations, and out-of-state travel. Costs for in-state travel are borne by the participant.

For more information about the Commissioners Court Leadership Academy or to learn how you can support this program, contact:



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## Commissioners Court LEADERSHIP academy

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