

## V.G. YOUNG INSTITUTE OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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The institute is part of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and The Texas A&M University System. Based in College Station, the institute works to meet the educational needs of county officials and the public by anticipating, identifying and addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by Texas county government.

The institute offers educational programs, reference materials and counsel to county officials, community organizations and citizens across the state. The institute is dedicated to the Extension mission of "improving the lives of people, businesses and communities across Texas and beyond through high-quality, relevant education."

## ACADEMY SELECTION AND PARTICIPATION

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Selection is based on a competitive application process for interested county judges and commissioners.

Participation requires a time commitment of 16 days during the 2-year program. This schedule includes three 3-day sessions and one 7-day session, including travel time to and from meeting locations.

Successful candidates for the academy pay a tuition fee, which includes all sessions and out-of-state travel and accommodations. The participant is responsible for costs associated with in-state travel and accommodations.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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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

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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**CLASS VIII  
2019 — 2020**

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI LIFE**  
EXTENSION



CELEBRATING **50** YEARS  
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**CLASS VIII**  
2019 — 2020



Joe Brown  
**Commissioner, Pct. 3**  
*Erath County*



C. J. "Trey" Duhon  
**Judge**  
*Waller County*



Joe Fauth III  
**Judge**  
*Grimes County*



G. Kirk Frye  
**Commissioner, Pct. 1**  
*Parmer County*



Mark M. Gillespie  
**Commissioner, Pct. 1**  
*Atascosa County*



David E. Hall  
**Commissioner, Pct. 1**  
*Calhoun County*



Mercy Murguia  
**Commissioner, Pct. 2**  
*Potter County*



Russell T. Schneider  
**Commissioner, Pct. 1**  
*Bell County*



Becky A. Wilbanks  
**Judge**  
*Cass County*



Jimmy R. Wiley  
**Commissioner, Pct. 4**  
*Young County*

## COMMISSIONERS COURT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

"Every county, every individual in a leadership role needs to improve their leadership skills if they truly want to serve the public well. If people really have a desire to serve their counties, then they should have a desire to participate in the academy." Don Allred, Oldham County Judge, CCLA Class I

*Governing Texas counties requires dynamic leadership. County leaders in Texas must be up to the challenge and ready to work with:*

- *Emerging resources*
- *Increasing demands for services*
- *Emerging technologies*
- *Changing demographics*
- *Other issues with effects that reach far into the future*

The Commissioners Court Leadership Academy helps county judges and commissioners fulfill their potential. By building their leadership skills, these key officials will be better equipped to meet the needs of their counties and the people they serve.