LEADERSHIP DECISION MAKING (LDM) PROGRAM

The Leadership Decision Making Program uses theories and evidence from psychology, behavioral economics, and neuroscience to teach leaders how to answer tough questions, improve the accuracy of their estimates, and structure effective negotiations. It also helps leaders design better decision environments by providing tools to reduce bias and inaccuracy, which can help make organizations smarter. This program gives participants the opportunity to examine both the scientific basis and the practical aspects of judgment and decision making and learn how to build lasting leadership skills that incorporate this knowledge. Topics covered include communicating risk effectively, designing optimal decision environments, reducing biases, and negotiating effectively. The program also includes an opportunity for self-assessment in the Harvard Decision Science Laboratory, a state-of-the-art facility featuring cutting-edge technologies that enable researchers to analyze the link between human physiology and decision-making behaviors. Using the Laboratory, participants learn more about their own biases, their attitudes toward risk, their ability to regulate emotions, and other key personal insights that can sharpen decision-making.

Website: https://www.hks.harvard.edu/educational-programs/executive-education/leadership-decision-making

COURSE INFORMATION

SLD Program Structure Category
Supplemental Course

Target Population(s)
General Officers (O-7, O-8, and O-9), AD, AFR, and ANG
SES/DISES members (Tiers 1, 2, and 3)
Colonels (O-6), AD, AFR, and ANG
GS-15 participants
Chief Master Sergeants (E-9), AD, AFR, and ANG

Provider
Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government

Location
Cambridge, MA

Length and Frequency (not including travel)
Residential: 6 days (June and September)
Virtual: 2 weeks, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. ET (January)

Funding
HAF-funded expenses: Course tuition (includes program materials, lodging and some meals)
Unit-funded expenses: Per diem (meals not included in tuition), travel to/from course, ground transportation, miscellaneous expenses

Pre-Coursework and Special Requirements:
Nominees must submit an online application, which includes essay questions. The endorsement letter requirement is waived for DAF applicants.

COMPETENCIES

Airman's Foundational Competencies (AFCs)

Developing Self
- Resilience
- Decision Making
- Flexibility

Developing Others
- Leadership
- Teamwork

Developing Ideas
- Creative Thinking

Executive Core Qualifications (ECQs)

Leading Change
- Strategic Thinking
- Resilience
- Flexibility

Leading People
- Conflict Management
- Team Building

Results Driven
- Accountability
- Decisiveness
- Problem Solving

Business Acumen
- Technology Management

Building Coalitions
- Influencing / Negotiating
- Partnering