

## MLD PRE-PROGRAM EXERCISE

All Master of Leadership Development (MLD) students admitted into the Fall 2019 and subsequent cohorts are required to complete the MLD Pre-Program Exercise assessments and training preferably prior to the start of LEAD 501, the first course in the MLD program. If necessary, students may complete these requirements before the end of the second week of LEAD 501 with the permission of the instructor.

### WHAT'S INVOLVED?

Students log onto Canvas ( [canvas.psu.edu](https://canvas.psu.edu) ) and select **MLD Pre-Program** to begin this brief assessment and training module. There are two parts to the module. The first part involves completing the *Leader Identity Survey*, *Mindset Survey*, and *Perspective Survey*, and submitting the survey results according to instructions given on Canvas. Completing these surveys should take no longer than 10 minutes. The second part involves working through the *Writing a Research Paper* and *Data Analytics Primer* LinkedIn Learning training modules and submitting the certificates of completion according to instructions given on Canvas. Completing these modules should take no longer than 1.5 hours each. So, your total time commitment involved is only about 3 hours.

Upon completion of the module, students will meet with their MLD faculty advisor who will discuss the results of the assessment and training modules with them. Faculty advisors will explain the practical implications of the results to assist students in their leadership development, learning strategies, and writing and quantitative skills required for success in the MLD program. Implications for selection of MLD elective courses will also be provided to students.

### WHY?

Research conducted by the Center for Creative Leadership and U.S. Army indicates that leadership development is a function of one's self-conceptions, attitude toward learning, and perspective-taking capacity.<sup>1</sup> In addition, leaders who possess strong writing and quantitative skills are more effective communicators and evidence-based decision makers.<sup>2</sup> We believe that providing MLD students with feedback from this brief assessment and training module better prepares them for their MLD coursework and provides a strong foundation for their leadership development.

*“Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.”*  
- *John F. Kennedy*

If you have any questions about completing this module, please contact your faculty advisor.

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<sup>1</sup> Day, D. V., Harrison, M. M., & Halpin, S. M. (2009). *An integrative approach to leader development: Connecting adult development, identity, and expertise*. New York: Routledge.

<sup>2</sup> Bass, B. M. (2008). *The Bass handbook of leadership: Theory, research and managerial applications* (4th ed.). New York: Free Press.