FOUNDATIONS OF LEADERSHIP

LEADING AND MANAGING IN THE CONTEMPORARY UNIVERSITY THROUGH COMPLEXITY, VOLATILITY & CHANGE

The Higher Education Leadership & Management Programme (HELM) is the organisational development, management education and leadership arm of Universities South Africa (USAf), the association of South Africa's 26 public universities.HELM offers a variety of organisational and training services and courses to the higher education sector, including a Foundations of Leadership Programme (FoL) in two versions - for Academic Leadership and for University Managers. The objectives of the Foundations of Leadership Programme are to:

- Develop an informed perspective on leadership & strategic planning in Universities;
- Promote creative problem-solving through a participative pedagogy, self-reflection & group interaction;
- Acquire new perspectives & skills which would contribute towards effective operations at your University;
- Formally & informally engage with other participants, exchange ideas, and share experiences which support personal & institutional development.

The programme is delivered online and consists of two 2.5 day modules (total 5 days), structured through expert inputs, personal and group exercises, and customized case studies.

Foundations of Leadership Module 1 covers higher education policy & regulatory frameworks, transformation, University funding & sustainability, leadership & management. Foundations of Leadership Module 2 covers strategic planning, budgeting, change management & people management.

This Foundations of Leadership Programme is funded by the Department of Higher Education & Training through the University Development Capacity Grant and is therefore offered at **no cost** to the public university sector. If you are interested in attending, please click on the appropriate link below and select one date that best fits your schedule.

Foundations of Leadership (Academic): Deanery, Heads of Schools, Academic Departments, Centres or Research Units.
Dates: 28-30 October 2026; 18-20 November 2026; 17-19 February 2027

Foundations of Leadership (University Managers): Senior and middle managers in any university administration or support division.
Dates: 11-13 November 2026; 25-27 November 2026; 3-5 February 2027

FoL is supported by public funds and offered at no cost to participants from public universities. By registering, you commit to attending all three sessions of your selected module in full and participating actively throughout. Your commitment honours this investment and the contributions of colleagues learning alongside you.

The full programme comprises two modules. Certification requires completion of both modules, including full attendance and meaningful participation. Participants who do not meet these requirements may be required to repeat FoL before receiving a certificate.

Please download the authorisation form **here for Academics** and for here for **University Managers**

UNIVERSITIES SOUTH AFRICA HELM

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