



TSSA Elite Program Application Form

The purpose of the TSSA ELITE program is to cultivate and nurture leadership skills in our young members, encourage a succession plan for participation in the state and executive boards and continue advancement of the sign industry.

Deadline:

- TSSA will start accepting application on March 1st, 2022
- Completed application, commitment form, essay, and recommendation and referral letters must be returned by email to dougl@ziglinsigns.com no later than April 30th, 2022.

Criteria:

- Company of employment must be a current member of TSSA in good standing.
- Applicant must be age 21 through 35 at the time the application is submitted.
- Applicant must be currently working in the sign & visual communications industry for a minimum of two years.
- Only 1 applicant per member company/per year.

Please complete the following:

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Company Phone: (____) _____

Mobile Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Birth Date: _____



Attach a 500- word essay or a video/creative presentation incorporating three of the five topics below:

1. What do I hope to gain from this experience?
2. What are my best personal assets and how will I implement them to improve our industry?
3. What leadership experience have I had and why am I qualified for this program?
4. What leader (coach, teacher, parent, sibling, friend, coworker, manager, author, historical figure, etc.) has had the greatest influence on my life and how?
5. How long have I been involved in TSSA and how has this influenced my career path?

TSSA Elite Program Commitment Form

It is an honor to be selected into the TSSA Elite Class and we will likely have more applicants than the limited class size allows. We urge you to consider the time commitment that is required and if you are not able to be **100% committed** to the participation requirements of this training program, please apply at another time so that we can appropriately fill the limited number of seats.



Time Requirements:

- Elite class will participate in 3-4 scheduled educational and informational meetings throughout the year (in addition to the expo). Meetings tentatively to be held at Downstream Resort.
- Meeting topics will include:
 - 1) Leadership – DATE TBD
 - a. This will include various industry jobs
 - b. Recruiting and retention of staff
 - c. Cost to operate and owner point of view
 - d. Community involvement to increase business
 - 2) How to navigate Municipal and Government Entities – DATE TBD
 - a. Zoning
 - b. Proactive with city councils and officials regarding ordinances
 - c. Plan and implement installation
 - 3) What is the salesperson of the future going to look like? – DATE TBD
 - a. Old school techniques
 - b. How to best use social media for awareness and generate leads
 - c. Products to supplement traditional signage
 - d. Customer service
 - e. How to balance customer and management demands
 - f. How to market the company and yourself
 - 4) Graduation – Community service project

We can have the elite group plan a one-day event in Joplin Thursday prior to the Expo, something that will leave an impression and awareness of the Association and industry. Approximate hours 9am-3pm.

Tri State Sign Annual Exposition: SUBJECT TO REVISIONS

- Thursday: Elite Program participants and committee to meet briefly before the welcome reception – introductions and welcome, etc
- Friday 9am-Noon: Kendall will host the class in orientation in one of the conference rooms, followed by lunch
- Friday after lunch until approx. 3pm: Class will donate time to assist with auction set-up
- Friday evening: Class attend Expo banquet, will receive introduction and recognition. Class to assist with silent auction.
- Saturday: Attend trade show



TSSA Elite Acceptance Includes:

- Free registration and full access to all events at the upcoming Tri-State Sign Expo.
- Free lodging at the upcoming Tri-State Sign Expo. Single room block rate for 4 nights per individual.
- Certificate and recognition at the Expo Banquet.
- Upon arrival to the scheduled educational meetings, lodging and meals will be covered. Additionally, fuel reimbursement for travel to meetings will be at .58 per mile or current rate. Mileage will need to be submitted for reimbursement.
- Successful completion of the TSSA Elite program would result in a letter of recommendation for the ISA Elite program if requested.

I, the undersigned, understand and accept the time commitment and responsibility of being selected as an TSSA Elite Class participant and agree to the time commitment and participation requirements listed above.

Applicant Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date _____

Company Name: _____

Company Owner/Manager Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date _____



TSSA Elite Program letters of recommendation and referral

- Submit a letter of recommendation from the owner or manager of the company you represent. This letter will represent their acknowledgment of the details of your participation.
- Submit a letter of referral from someone outside of the sign industry. This can be a character or previous work reference.

Please complete the application and commitment form and send, along with your essay/video and letters of recommendation and referral, via email to dougl@ziglinsigns.com