

City of New Haven Democracy School



Mayor John DeStefano, Jr.'s Democracy School will introduce residents to the structures, services, and leaders in the City of New Haven through a series of public information forums. City officials will introduce their work and lead question and answer sessions aimed at fostering open lines of communication, enabling participants to take full advantage of city resources, and empowering residents to become community leaders.

Democracy School is open to any New Haven resident, at least 18 years old. Because space is limited, 25 students will be accepted based on submitted applications.

Democracy School Goals

- Provide participants with an interactive learning experience that generates dialogue about city services, programs and responsibilities, including day-to-day operations, the challenges to city government, and budget limitations.
- Promote partnerships between community and government by providing a forum where local government officials and local community members can interact and exchange ideas.

Course Details

The Democracy School will meet on one night per week from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm for six weeks. Refreshments will be provided by area restaurants.

DATE	TOPIC	LOCATION
Week 1	Governing the City	City Hall – 165 Church Street (Meeting Rooms 1 and 2)
Week 2	Economic Development	Co-op High School 177 College Street (Cafeteria)
Week 3	Budget, Finance & Taxes	Sound School 60 South Water St.
Week 4	Quality Neighborhoods	Hall of Records 200 Orange St., 1 st Floor
Week 5	Public Safety	Police Dept. Headquarters 1 Union Avenue, 4 th Floor
Week 6	Youth & Education	Metropolitan Business Academy 115 Water Street (Cafeteria)
TBA	Graduation Ceremony	TBA

Requirements

Participants should avoid missing class. Each person will be required to complete a simple class assignment, which will be further explained when class begins. It can include doing **one** of the following over the six week period: attend a Board of Aldermen meeting, attend a committee meeting, attend Mayor's Night Out, or meet with a City Hall employee. After every class, each student must fill out a brief evaluation form. Lastly, all participants must follow the Democracy School's Rules of Conduct.

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Application Form

Faxed or emailed Applications are preferred.

The City of New Haven Democracy School provides a unique opportunity for citizens to learn about city government and interact with city leaders and government officials. The Democracy School will be held one weekday night per week from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM for six weeks. Selected applicants will be notified by mail. Please pay attention the City of New Haven website for application deadlines and class dates.

Please print clearly. Handwritten responses are accepted.

Name: _____

Residential Address: _____
(Number, Street, City, State, Zip)

Mailing Address: _____
(If different than above)

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell (optional): _____

Email: _____

Please respond to the following in the space below:

1. Please describe your occupation: (If not working, please indicate past occupation).
2. Please describe your present and past community involvement – voluntary, social, other.
3. What would you like to gain from participating in the City of New Haven's Democracy School?
4. Would you be interested in running for local office or joining a City board or commission?
(For informational purposes. Not a requirement of participation).