



Athens- Clarke County Citizens Government Academy

~ March 27-May 22, 2019 ~

The Athens-Clarke County Citizens Government Academy is a nine week program designed to offer residents the opportunity to learn how their local government works and how they can become more involved.

Participants will learn about the relationships between the citizens, Mayor & Commission, and local government departments. They will also learn how and why projects are implemented and the manner in which services are provided, as well as how they coincide with the Mayor and Commissions Goals, Objectives, and strategic commitments.

Participants will receive an overview of the budget process, public safety departments, environmental stewardship, and many other responsibilities and functions of the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government. Each class will be conducted by department representatives and will provide both an informational and interactive learning approach.

Citizens Government Academy

Join the Mayor, Manager, and staff for a learning and networking opportunity. The Athens-Clarke County Unified Government (ACCGOV) is offering a weekly class for residents to learn about local government through first-hand exposure to the wide range of government functions, services, activities, and issues. The Citizens Government Academy will take place each Wednesday evening from March 27, 2019 through May 22, 2019 from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Graduation date to be determined.

Goal:

Give citizens an opportunity to learn how to access their government, familiarize citizens with government services, functions and activities of Athens-Clarke County. Additionally, the Citizens Government Academy will help residents gain a better understanding about how to become involved in local government and enhance their ability to communicate effectively with local government officials.

The program is structured around ACCGOV's six strategic commitments:

- **Informed and Engaged Community**
- **Accountable and Responsive Government**
- **Economic Prosperity**
- **Healthy, Livable and Sustainable Athens-Clarke County**
- **Transportation, Mobility, and Connectivity**
- **Safe and Prepared Community**

Benefits:

- Provide an opportunity for residents to learn about the Athens-Clarke County government through first-hand experience and gain exposure to the wide range of government functions, services, activities, and issues.
- Create informed residents who may wish to become involved in community activities, and volunteer for Commission-appointed boards, boards, commissions, and task forces.
- Obtain feedback from citizens regarding governmental programs and services.

Academy Size:

The academy is limited to 25 students. The Citizens Government Academy is open to Athens-Clarke County residents over the age of 18 yearsold.

Meeting Day & Time: Wednesday nights, March 27 to May 22, for nine weeks from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at various locations throughout Athens-Clarke County.

Informed and Engaged Community

Wednesday, March 27, 2019
**Athens-Clarke County Government History
& Organization**
**Commission Chamber, City Hall- 301 College
Avenue, Athens, GA 30601**

- Meet the Mayor and Elected Officials
- Meet the Manager of the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County
- Purpose of Citizens Government Academy
- Brief History of Athens-Clarke County & Unification
- Role of the Mayor & Commission
- Role of the Manager
- Form of Government
- Organizational Overview

Accountable and Responsive Govt.

Wednesday, April 3, 2019
Show Me The Money: Finance Department
Satula Avenue Building Training Room
375 Satula Avenue, Athens, GA 30601

- Overview of the Budget Process
- Overview of the ACCGOV Operating and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budgets
- Revenue Base

Economic Prosperity

Wednesday, April 10, 2019
**More Than Just Jobs: Economic
Development**
Chamber of Commerce Board Room
246 W. Hancock, Athens, GA 30601

- Overview of Economic Development
- Economic Development Exercise
- Business Retention/Expansion

Healthy, Livable, and Sustainable Athens-Clarke County

Wednesday, April 17, 2019
**We Make Trash & Recycling Fun: Solid
Waste**
Solid Waste Department
**725 Hancock Industrial Way, Athens, GA
30605**

- Introduction to Solid Waste Operations
- Understanding the Landfill
- Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful
- Tour of Materials Recovery Facility

Wednesday, April 24, 2019
A Playful City: Leisure Services
Memorial Park
293 Gran Ellen Drive, Athens, GA 30606

- Overview of Leisure Services
- Service Offerings
- History and Importance of Bear Hollow Zoo
- Intro to Athens Creative Theater

Wednesday, May 1, 2019
Water Is Life: Public Utilities
Middle Oconee Water Reclamation Facility
400 Will Hunter Road, Athens, GA 30606

- The Business of Municipal Water Works
- Tour Water Reclamation Facility

Transportation Mobility and Connectivity

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Follow the Yellow Brick Road:

Transportation and Public Works

Planning Auditorium

120 W. Dougherty Street, Athens, GA 30601

- Roadways, Bikeways, and Walkways
- Traffic Control and Guidance Systems
- Public Stormwater Collection and Conveyance Systems

Safe and Prepared Community

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

More Than Handcuffs: Police

Police Department Headquarters

3035 Lexington Road, Athens, GA 30605

- Overview of Police Department
- Community Oriented Policing
- Police Simulation

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

It's Hot In Here: Fire & Emergency Services

Fire Department Training Center

155 Paradise Blvd, Athens, GA 30607

- Introduction to the Fire Department
- Training Exercise and Demonstration
- Overview of the Emergency Management Office

Application
Deadline: Friday, March 8, 2019
or once 25 participants have been selected
Application also available online at accgov.com/cga

Eligibility Requirements:

- Over the age of 18
- Reside within Athens-Clarke County.

For more information, call 706-613-3020. If you do not receive a confirmation email after submitting your application, please call or email Jestin Johnson at jestin.johnson@accgov.com.

General Information

Name: _____
 (Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Home Address: _____

Business Address (If Applicable): _____

Home Telephone: _____ Mobile Telephone _____

Email Address: _____

Optional Information

Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Emergency Contact Information

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Return application to: **Mailed:**
 P.O. Box 1868
 301 College Avenue, Athens, GA 30603

Email: jestin.johnson@accgov.com

Hand Delivered:
City Hall, 301 College Avenue, Suite 301, Athens, GA

Why are you interested in participating in the Citizens Government Academy?

What do you hope to gain or learn from participating in Citizens Government Academy?

Are you currently involved with any community or volunteer organizations? If so, please list.

I, the undersigned applicant, certify that the foregoing information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Athens-Clarke County 101: Citizens Government Academy
RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

I, _____, being 18 years of age or older, in consideration of my participation in Athens-Clarke County 101: Citizens' Government Academy conducted by the Athens-Clarke County Unified Government (ACCGOV) and my being allowed to accompany members of ACCGOV in its buildings and properties during the various activities with Athens-Clarke County 101, do hereby agree as follows:

a) That I release ACCGOV, its departments, and its agents and employees from any liability to myself and my heirs as a result of any damage to my property, injury to myself, or loss of my life sustained as a result of my participation or my accompanying said persons or properties on the above activities.

b) That I agree to hold ACCGOV, its departments, and its agents and employees harmless for any loss sustained by them as a result of any injury or damage caused by myself and I agree to indemnify ACCGOV, and its agents or employees for any loss occurred thereby.

c) That I grant permission to ACCGOV, its departments, and its agents and employees to use my image, photograph or video in official ACCGOV publications, communications, and presentations, including, but not limited to, inclusion on the ACCGOV website and social media. I also understand that once my image is posted online, any computer user can download or capture the images.

Signed on the ___ day of _ _____ 2019_____

Signature: _____