



Urban League of  
Greater Pittsburgh



# Black Male Leadership Development Institute

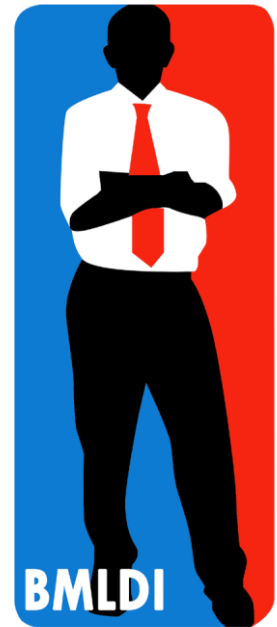
## 2019-2020 STUDENT APPLICATION

*Funded by The Heinz Endowments and The Buhl Foundation*

*Co-Sponsored by The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh and Robert Morris University*

The **Black Male Leadership Development Institute (BMLDI)** is a program that brings African American boys, in grades 9-12, together in a year-long program designed to increase educational and leadership opportunities for the selected participants. BMLDI allows African American young men to take the competencies that they already have and expand them into a repertoire of leadership skills that can have a practical impact in their local communities. This is done by creating a supportive learning community that offers a challenging curriculum and rich set of activities that enhance their awareness of themselves and the world around them. Through the program, they will acquire leadership skills that can help change the outcomes for African American men and boys in this region.

BMLDI, which is co-sponsored by the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh and Robert Morris University (RMU), kicks off with a week-long Summer Residential Summit on the RMU campus and is followed by mandatory year-round programming that consists of Saturday Institutes, Guys' Night Out Sessions and BMLDI service projects. All components of BMLDI are staffed by a faculty consisting of African American leaders from the region and beyond, whose diverse backgrounds span the range from the pulpit to the boardroom.



### WHAT PARTICIPANTS GAIN FROM BMLDI

- Network of positive and relatable African American role models
- Leadership experience
- College and career preparation
- A safe and empowering space for open dialogue
- Stronger confidence and self esteem
- Peer to peer learning
- Identity development
- Health and wellness education
- Awareness of diversity in a global world

**NOTE:** BMLDI is offered FREE of charge to students who are accepted. The costs for the Summer Summit, Saturday Institute, and Guys Night Out sessions have been underwritten through grants and generous in kind donations the dollar value of the experience is approximately \$3,000 per student.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- African American male
- Entering grades 9, 10, 11, or 12 (as of August 2019)
- Maintenance of adequate school attendance (at least 85% present)
- Preferred yearly cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher (from 2018/19 school year). Students with a lower GPA may be considered on a case by case basis and will be required to submit a letter of recommendation
- Residents of the Greater Pittsburgh region

## **WEEK-LONG SUMMER RESIDENTIAL (RMU MAIN CAMPUS)**

BMLDI kicks off with a week-long residential summer summit on the RMU campus. The summer summit will take place from Sunday, June 16, 2019 to Saturday, June 22, 2019 **Selected participants must stay the entire week.**

Throughout the summer summit, participants engage in:

- Workshops concentrating on topics such as values clarification, identity formation, and visioning
- Leadership exercises, which include the media's portrayal of African American manhood, fatherhood and personal accountability
- Dinner sessions with keynote speakers and community leaders in the Pittsburgh region

The sessions are designed to inspire and motivate the participants, as well as to provide a venue for African American male role models to share their stories. The evening hours consist of fun activities and entertainment to suit every interest.

## **SATURDAY INSTITUTES (RMU DOWNTOWN CAMPUS)**

Saturday Institutes occur once a month and consist of workshops facilitated by African American male leaders with expertise regarding issues that have a significant impact on the African American community (particularly males). In previous years, some of the themes featured in the workshops have revolved around college and career readiness, physical mental and spiritual well-being, and measuring performance and accountability. These workshops build upon each other throughout the year and will instill in the participants skills, which will be of use to them in many different settings and for the rest of their lives.

## **GUYS' NIGHT OUT SESSIONS (URBAN LEAGUE OF GREATER PITTSBURGH)**

Twice a month students meet for informal evenings during which they engage in discussion and activities centered around areas of common interest. The topics covered can include personal growth, peer pressure, diversity, and life as a young adult. While these sessions are intended to build upon the leadership workshops received during the Saturday Institutes, the environment is also aimed at creating a positive break from the stressors of school.



## MEETINGS

<b>BMLDI Family Orientation</b>	Sunday June 2, 2019 Monday June 3, 2019	Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh Downtown Office
<b>Week-Long Residential Summer Summit</b>	Sunday June 16, 2019 Saturday June 22, 2019	Robert Morris University Main Campus
<b>Saturday Institute (SI)</b>	MONTHLY (Saturdays 8:00am-1:30pm)	Robert Morris University Downtown Campus
<b>Guys' Night Out (GNO)</b>	BI-MONTHLY (Wednesdays 4:45pm - 7:00pm)	Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh Downtown Office

## LOCATIONS

**Robert Morris University  
Main Campus**  
6001 University Blvd.  
Moon, PA 15108

**Robert Morris University  
Downtown Campus**  
339 Sixth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

**Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh  
Downtown Office**  
610 Wood Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory. Students enrolled in the BMLDI are expected to arrive on time and attend all sessions during the summer summit, as well as the year-round programming. If attendance becomes inconsistent, participant disenrollment from BMLDI may become necessary and is determined at the discretion of BMLDI staff.

## BEHAVIOR

BMLDI maintains a safe environment wherein all are to be respected and rules and regulations exist to keep activities fun and beneficial for everyone. The BMLDI, the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, and Robert Morris University have a **Zero Tolerance Policy** for bullying, use of drugs and/or alcohol, violence, threats of any kind, theft or any other disruptive behavior. Any behavior that is unbecoming of BMLDI standards could result in permanent removal from the program; this decision will be made at the discretion of BMLDI staff. Rules and regulations will be reviewed in their entirety during the mandatory BMLDI orientation session detailed in the chart above.

## TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to the Robert Morris University (main campus) will be provided on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> from the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh downtown office. Parents and guardians are invited to the end of the week celebration at RMU on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and may take their son home with them upon conclusion of the celebration. If parents/guardians are unable to attend the celebration, transportation back to the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh (downtown office) will be provided for student

## APPLICATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS & DOCUMENTATION

- Completed application with submission of all required documents by May 12, 2019.
- Thoughtful and full answers provided for the student questionnaire, which will be used to evaluate applicant's attitude toward the BMLDI.
- A copy of applicant's most recent report card (displaying GPA and school attendance).
- List of 2 references (people unrelated to applicant) who can attest to the applicants personal character.
- Headshot of applicant sent electronically to [bmlidi@ulpgh.org](mailto:bmlidi@ulpgh.org) (student name in email subject line). Only applicant may be in picture, face must be clearly visible, and background should be a solid color. This picture is used for identification purposes only.

## 2019-2020 BMLDI Application Demographic Information

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 11:59PM, MAY 12, 2019.**

### Student Contact (must complete ALL boxes)

<b>First Name</b>		<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>		<b>City</b>	
<b>State</b>		<b>Zip code</b>	
<b>Email</b>		<b>Cell Number</b>	

Race:  White  Hispanic/Latino  Asian American  African American  Other

Student Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Current Age \_\_\_\_\_

2019-2020 High School of attendance \_\_\_\_\_ 2019-2020 Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Current GPA \_\_\_\_\_

Any Allergies:  Yes  No T-Shirt (select men's size): **S M L XL 2XL**

Please list allergies (use additional sheets if necessary).

Does the student have any health issues or disabilities BMLDI should be made aware of? If yes, please describe.

### Parent/Guardian Contact – 1 (must complete ALL boxes)

<b>First Name</b>		<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>			
<b>Cell Phone (Daytime)</b>		<b>Alternative Number</b>	
<b>Relationship to student</b>		<b>Preferred method of contact</b>	

### Parent/Guardian Contact – 2

<b>First Name</b>		<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>			
<b>Cell Phone (Daytime)</b>		<b>Alternative Number</b>	
<b>Relationship to student</b>		<b>Preferred method of contact</b>	

### STUDENT REFERENCES

<b>Reference #1</b>		<b>Reference #2</b>	
<b>Name</b>		<b>Name</b>	
<b>Organization</b>		<b>Organization</b>	
<b>Title</b>		<b>Title</b>	
<b>Phone</b>		<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>		<b>Email Address</b>	
<b>Relationship to student</b>		<b>Relationship to student</b>	

## 2019-2020 BMLDI Application Student Questionnaire

*Note: Contingent upon acceptance to the BMLDI, additional terms and conditions will be reviewed during the BMLDI orientation in June 2019; these terms and conditions must be agreed upon prior to applicant's full acceptance into the BMLDI.*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Have you ever participated in any kind of youth program outside of school (i.e. leadership, mentoring, etc.)?  
Yes or No *If yes, please list the name of the program and date of attendance.*

2. Please list 3 leadership skills you possess and 3 skills you wish to obtain through BMLDI.

Skills you currently possess

1.

2.

3.

Skills you wish to obtain

1.

2.

3.

3. Please **name four** heroes/leaders who you admire **and explain** why you admire them.

A.

B.

C.

D.

4. If you could change one thing in your community, what would it be and why?



## 2019-2020 BMLDI Application

# How to Submit Your Application

### Application Material Check-list

**Applicants: please use this checklist to ensure your application is complete and submitted to the best of your ability.**

#### Appearance

- \_\_\_ Written in an easy-to-read manner.
- \_\_\_ Provided answers to all questions asked. See pages 4-6.

#### Documentation

- \_\_\_ Copy of student's most recent report card.
- \_\_\_ List of 2 personal references and their contact information. These people can speak to the applicant's personal character and are unrelated to the applicant. See page 4.
- \_\_\_ Electronic (email) submission of student headshot to [bmlidi@ulpgh.org](mailto:bmlidi@ulpgh.org) (student name in email subject line), which will be used for identification purposes only. **NOTE:** Only applicant may be in the picture, their face must be clearly visible, and the background should be a solid color.

#### Information (see page 4)

- \_\_\_ Selected a shirt size.
- \_\_\_ Provided email addresses that you/your parent currently know the password for and check regularly.
- \_\_\_ Checked to ensure student and parent/guardian to ensure email addresses/phone numbers provided are correct.

**BY MAY 12, 2019 YOU CAN SUBMIT VIA SCANNED EMAIL ATTACHMENT, FAX, MAIL, OR IN-PERSON**

**BMLDI staff will contact you within 1 week of application submission to confirm receipt of the application and provide further instructions. If you have not received confirmation, please contact Dean Richards.**

Email: [bmlidi@ulpgh.org](mailto:bmlidi@ulpgh.org)

Put in subject line "[Student's name] Completed Application"

Fax: (412) 227-4171

**Mail or in-person:** Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh

BMLDI  
610 Wood Street 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

**For questions, you may contact any of the staff listed below:**

**Dean Richards**  
BMLDI Acting Co-Director  
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[drichards@ulpgh.org](mailto:drichards@ulpgh.org)

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