



Connecting Future Leaders

2025 Schedule

| Date | Time | Event | Instructor | Location | Topic |
|-------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| 10/23 | 8:30 – 11:15 AM | Session 1 | Donny Shimamoto | Zoom | Personality and Self-awareness; Review of Birkman Assessment (To create understanding of self) |
| 10/29 | 6:00 – 7:30 PM | Alumni Reunion + Mixer | | TXCPA Houston 1233 West Loop S., Suite 1425, Houston 77027 | |
| 10/30 | *8:30 – 11:30 AM | Session 2 | Mike Goodfriend | TXCPA Houston | Teamwork Skills (create understanding of the role of personality and communication on team performance) |
| 10/30 | 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM | Leadership Panel | | Enjoy a light lunch while past Houston CPA Society leaders share their journeys. Mark Lee, Carol Warley, Adam Dimmick | |
| 11/06 | **8:30 – 11:30 AM | Session 3 | David Cook | TXCPA Houston | Leadership Changes and AI |
| 11/13 | 8:30 – 11:30 AM | Session 4 | Pauline Le | TXCPA Houston | Interpersonal Communications (Create understanding of how to effectively communicate) |
| 11/13 | 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM | Lunch | Roundtable Discussion | Restaurant to be determined | TXCPA Houston hosts lunch to hear your key takeaways from the Accelerate program and gather your suggestions for future programs. |

**in-person classes include networking & light lunch after class
** class members are encouraged to go out for a nearby lunch, Dutch-treat*

Accelerate

To introduce and equip emerging leaders with meaningful mentoring, networking, and leadership opportunities both within the profession and the community through a professional development program designed to build and strengthen essential leadership skills.

Since its launch in 2013, the Houston CPA Society's Accelerate program has helped emerging leaders strengthen the skills that drive professional success and meaningful community impact. Designed as a four-week leadership development experience, Accelerate fosters both personal growth and professional connection.

The 2025 program centers on executive leadership competencies, with a focus on self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, and relationship building. Participants begin with a personalized Birkman Method assessment to gain insights into their individual work styles and motivations. Through interactive sessions, the program then explores conflict resolution, communication strategies, and practical tools to enhance collaboration and performance.

Accelerate

Accelerate = “Connecting Future Leaders” Professional Development & Networking program

Cost: \$650 TXCPA Members; \$875 Nonmembers

Membership available: [TXCPA Membership](#)

CPE Credit: 13 Hours (three hours per session instruction, plus leadership panel lunch)

Class Size: Limited to 20 current and future leaders of the accounting, legal, and finance professions

Who will benefit:

- Professionals will acquire leadership skills and make lifelong contacts with like-minded future leaders.
- Employers will benefit from the training and insight that participants receive and bring back to their organization.
- TXCPA Houston will benefit by developing future leaders.

Who is eligible:

- TXCPA Houston members, or non-CPA accounting, finance, or legal professionals, working at the senior, manager or equivalent level and having a minimum of two years of experience.

If you or someone in your firm is interested in participating, email Membership Manager Carol Spencer at cspencer@txcpahouston.cpa

Accelerate format:

The one-month program consists of one session each week. In 2025, enjoy an in-person happy hour to connect with Society leadership, fellow session members, and program alumni. Each Thursday morning session (8:30 – 11:30 a.m.) will begin with dedicated networking time before discussions. The program culminates with lunch and roundtable discussion at a local restaurant.

Program Alumni Benefits include:

- Exclusive invitations to alumni-only networking and professional development events
- Priority access to leadership roles and volunteer opportunities within TXCPA Houston and local nonprofits
- Ongoing mentorship and peer support from a community of emerging leaders
- Access to specialized workshops and resources designed to advance leadership and career growth
- Recognition as a program alumnus/a, enhancing your professional credibility and visibility

*For more detailed information on this program or TXCPA/Houston Chapter membership, contact Membership Manager **Carol Spencer** (cspencer@txcpahouston.cpa, 832.831.9232).*



To apply for Accelerate 2025, use the online link, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MSWTBB9>



Or complete the following and email the application to Carol Spencer no later than October 12.
Email: cspencer@txcpahouston.cpa

Name _____

Firm/ Company _____

Current work title or position _____

Home address _____

City/ zip _____

Email (work) _____

Email (personal) _____

Phone (work) _____ (cell) _____

Who referred you to the program? _____

_____ I grant permission to access and use my LinkedIn profile to review my work experience & qualifications, or I am providing a current resume.

Are you a CPA? _____ Are you a member of TXCPA/ TXCPA Houston? _____

Number of years of experience _____

Areas of Expertise

Why do you want to participate in Accelerate?

What issues or concerns—such as shifting workplace dynamics, AI, or working with others—would you like this program to address?

What are your expectations for the 2025 Accelerate?

