

The Effective Facilitator: Virtual Edition

Learn the proven facilitation process & techniques that generate powerful group results.



Leadership
Strategies 

Why it Works

This online, instructor led version of our flagship course, *The Effective Facilitator* devotes 80% of its curriculum to learning and practicing the group techniques that separate great facilitators from good ones. This course focuses on critical skills, such as consensus building, keeping the group focused, generating energy, managing dysfunction, and gaining agreement. Our proprietary approach to training: the Practical, Dynamic, Interactive (PDI) Difference ensures results.

— **Practical** techniques that can be immediately applied; **Dynamic**, high energy instructors; and **Interactive** exercises and practice sessions. To date, over 95% of attendees have rated this course as THE BEST or ONE OF THE BEST courses they've ever taken!

Learn How To

- Get groups to develop and agree upon workable, realistic plans or solutions to issues.
- Create a vision that motivates people to action.
- Engage groups in developing solutions and generate ownership that leads to results.
- Utilize a comprehensive approach used by top facilitators– from getting a session started, to focusing the group, to managing dysfunction, to closing the session.
- ...And much more!

Ideal For

- **Anyone leading virtual meetings / Managers / Executives / Facilitators / Trainers / Consultants / Sales Professionals / Analysts**

Who Needs to

- Lead a task force
- Establish a strategic direction
- Run better meetings
- Get a business process operating efficiently
- Establish performance objectives
- Work through conflict/internal strife
- Define the specific needs of a user community

Duration

Four Days (A three-day streamlined version of this course, which removes the facilitated sessions exercise and related videotaping, is also available.)

Objectives

- Define the role of a facilitator
- Identify the key facilitation principles
- Describe the best practices related to each principle
- Provide students with facilitation practice and performance feedback

AGENDA

Day 1

- Getting Started
- Facilitation Process
- Principles Overview
- Information Gathering
- **Exercise #1: Questioning**
- Preparing
- Starting
- Review

Day 2

- Review
- **Exercise #2: Starting**
- Focusing
- Power of the Pen
- **Exercise #3: Using the Pen**
- Dysfunction
- **Exercise #4: Dysfunction**
- Review

Day 3

- Review
- Consensus
- Energy
- Closing
- **Exercise #5: Consensus**
- Agenda Setting
- Agenda Models
- Session Preparation
- Review

Day 4

- Setup
- **Exercise #6: Facilitated Sessions**
- Review/Close

Why This Course?

How do you get groups to develop workable, realistic solutions? Our flagship course delivers the tools and techniques you can use immediately! We show you how to motivate a group, build consensus, manage dysfunction, maintain focus, generate ownership and inspire action.

No facilitation class offers you more!

- Workbook covering the 10 principles of The Facilitator’s Methodology™, and over 100 techniques
- 10 detailed agenda models
- 6 practice sessions
- Video-recorded practice (if requested)
- 62-page exercise packet with sample case studies
- Spring Forward — a 60-day check-in to confirm your progress
- The Maximizer — a monthly article focusing on one or two of the course techniques you learned
- The Refresher — a free monthly webinar reviewing one of the principles each month with plenty of time for questions and for participants to share their facilitation challenges and successes

What Separates The Effective Facilitator from Other Facilitation Courses?

At Leadership Strategies, we believe that what differentiates effective facilitators from others is not their understanding of problem-solving processes, strategic planning, and other process techniques. Rather, it is their expertise in group techniques — inspiring action, probing for clarity, managing dysfunction, and building consensus and commitment — that makes a facilitator truly effective at achieving results. While other facilitation courses devote only 20% of their time to group techniques, The Effective Facilitator devotes 80% of its curriculum to learning and practicing group techniques.

What is Covered?

The 10 principles of The Facilitator’s Methodology™ provide a highly-structured framework for guiding the facilitator — from preparing for a successful session, through achieving buy in and commitment, to session wrap up and close.

The course’s depth is in the “how-tos”:

- The course doesn’t just tell you to “prepare for the session.” Instead, it gives you the specific steps of whom to talk with, what to talk about, and what to do with what you hear.
- Realizing that simply telling you to “get the session started” is far from enough, the workbook details what to say in your opening words, what to do (and not do) with your voice and body, and how to warm up the group so that you don’t get complete silence when you ask the first question.
- Rather than just defining consensus, it recommends specific methods for establishing a consensus-focused approach from the start of the session. Additionally, the course describes five alternative strategies for resolving disagreements that occur.
- The course doesn’t just discuss “open-ended” and “closed-ended” questions. The course identifies nine different question types and gives you specific methods for probing for clarity, challenging questionable suggestions, and floating ideas that might have been overlooked.

The Facilitator’s Methodology™

