

The Toastmasters Pathways Learning Experience

In Pathways, you will practice and improve your communication and leadership skills. By completing projects and giving speeches, you challenge yourself to build and refine certain skills.

You can develop confidence and skills in many different areas—interpersonal communication, strategic leadership, management, public speaking and more. You will complete projects that range in topic from persuasive speaking to motivating others to creating a podcast to leading a group in a difficult situation.

Descriptions of the 11 different learning paths and some of their learning goals are:



Dynamic Leadership

Strategic leadership and conflict resolution skills

- effect of conflict on a group
- skills needed to defuse and direct conflict
- development of strategies to facilitate
- culminates in a project focused on applying your leadership skills



Persuasive Influence

Skills to lead in complex situations

- negotiate a positive outcome
- build strong interpersonal communication
- create innovative solutions to challenges
- complete a “High Performance Leadership” project of your design



Effective Coaching

Interpersonal communication, leadership and coaching skills

- understand and build consensus
- contribute to development of others by coaching
- complete a “High Performance Leadership” project of your design



Presentation Mastery

Public speaking skills

- learn how an audience responds
- improve connection with audience members.
- understand effective public speaking technique, including speech writing and speech delivery
- culminates in an extended speech to apply what you learned



Engaging Humor

Skills as a humorous and engaging public speaker

- understand your sense of humor and how that translates to engaging audience members
- develop an understanding of how to effectively use humor in a speech, including challenging situations and impromptu speeches
- culminates in an extended humorous speech to apply what you learned



Strategic Relationships

Networking, leadership and communication skills

- focus on understanding diversity
- build personal and/or professional connections with a public relations strategy
- emphasis in each project to on interpersonal communication
- culminates in a project to apply your skills as a leader in a volunteer organization



Innovative Planning

Creative project management and communication skills

- focus on developing a strong connection with audience
- build an understanding of steps to manage a project
- create innovative solutions
- complete a “High Performance Leadership” project of your design



Team Collaboration

Collaborative leadership skills

- focus on active listening
- motivate others and collaborate with a team
- build interpersonal communication and public speaking skills
- culminates in a project that applies your leadership skills



Leadership Development

Communication and leadership skills

- focus on how to manage time
- develop and implement a plan
- emphasis in all projects on public speaking and leading a team
- planning and executing an event to apply everything you learned.



Visionary Communication

Innovative communication and leadership skills

- develop your skills for sharing information with a group
- plan communications and create innovative solutions
- emphasis in each project on speech writing and delivery
- culminates in development and launch of a long-term personal or professional vision



Motivational Strategies

Motivational leadership and communication skills

- learn strategies for building connections
- understand motivation and successfully lead small groups to accomplish tasks
- culminates in a comprehensive team-building project

No matter which path you choose, you will complete at least 14 educational projects and present a minimum of 15 prepared speeches. You will also serve in various meeting roles. Each path is divided into five levels that build in complexity. The levels help you build on and apply what you have learned.

Level 1 Mastering Fundamentals	<i>You'll focus on speech writing and basic speech delivery, as well as receiving, applying and delivering feedback.</i> Level 1 Projects are the same in all paths: "Ice Breaker" + "Evaluation and Feedback" + "Researching and Presenting"
Level 2 Learning Your Style	<i>Determine your personal style and preferences. Identify your leadership or communication styles. Introduction to the basic structure of the Pathways Mentor Program.</i> Two required projects + "Introduction to Toastmasters Mentoring"
Level 3 Increasing Knowledge	<i>Increase knowledge of skills specific to your path.</i> One required project + a minimum of two elective projects
Level 4 Building Skills	<i>Build skills to succeed on your path. Explore new challenges and begin to apply what you learned.</i> One required project + a minimum of one elective project
Level 5 Demonstrating Expertise	<i>Demonstrate your expertise in the skills you have learned through larger projects. After completing this level, you will have earned Proficient designation.</i> One required project + a minimum of one elective project + "Reflect on Your Path"

Choosing Your Experience: Base Camp or Printed Materials

Two methods exist to experience Pathways: online access to Base Camp or via printed materials.

Base Camp allows access from your computer, laptop or tablet to your path and additional material. You can save PDF files or print paper copies. You also have access to the Pathways Assessment to help you choose a path.

The second method is via printed materials distributed and shipped by Toastmasters International World Headquarters. Your experience and path options are more limited compared to the full online Base Camp method. The printed materials method costs extra. Some limited Base Camp access is available with no viewing of the online project files.

Base Camp gives you a more robust learning experience, however, you must choose the option that is best for you. The two methods are compared in the following table.

	Base Camp	Printed Materials
Access your path online	✓	
Take the Pathways Assessment	✓	
Number of paths available	11	5
Additional fees for printed materials		✓
Elective projects available	All	Limited
Access to new materials	No shipping time	Shipping time required
Videos and interactive content	✓	
Download and print PDF versions of projects and resources	✓	Only evaluation and select project resources
Upload and store electronic copies of your speech evaluations to access from anywhere	✓	
Earn or give digital badges	✓	

How will Pathways transform you?

For more information, including a peek at the first project for every new member (the Icebreaker), visit www.toastmasters.org/pathways-overview