

Leland Sandler

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Consulting; Executive Coaching

Leland Sandler is an executive coach and consultant based in Jefferson County, Colorado. He is a UC Berkeley graduate and has built a professional career combining education, curriculum design, and executive coaching. His background includes experience as a university educator, curriculum developer, and faculty lead, roles that provided a strong foundation for his later work in consulting and leadership development.

He established his professional consulting and coaching firm, The Sandler Group, in 2002. Over the years, he has earned multiple certifications as an executive coach and has served on the board of a respected international coaching network. His work reflects a consistent focus on helping leaders improve effectiveness, adapt to change, and build sustainable results over time.

Current role and responsibilities

Leland currently leads operations at the California-based professional consulting and coaching firm, The Sandler Group. Headquartered in Solana Beach, the firm is recognized as a management consulting organization with more than two decades of experience in executive advising and organizational effectiveness.

As the firm's managing partner, he works alongside his team to support individuals and organizations, particularly those operating in the global life sciences and technology sectors. In

this role, he oversees the coaching and professional development of senior executives and their teams. His responsibilities include guiding leaders through complex business challenges while helping them strengthen decision-making and organizational alignment.

His areas of focus include helping leaders identify and build upon their existing capabilities while expanding their influence in rapidly changing business environments. Under his leadership, the firm reached a significant milestone by celebrating its 20th anniversary in December 2022.

Since its founding in 2002, the firm has built a strong record of delivering sustainable outcomes for its clients. These clients include Amylin Pharmaceuticals, Boston Scientific, Edwards Lifesciences, Eli Lilly, Intel, Kyocera Wireless, NuVasive, Qualcomm, and Sony Corporation.

The firm applies innovative approaches combined with strong interpersonal skills to support growth and long-term improvement. After more than two decades in operation, it remains focused on creating meaningful, lasting change in how leaders and organizations operate on a global scale.

Past roles and responsibilities

Earlier in his career, he worked as a university educator, curriculum developer, and faculty lead. In his role as a curriculum developer, he designed a range of MBA courses. These courses were implemented into national curricula, including programs developed to support students with learning difficulties.

Sandler also served as a university instructor and presenter. His academic work included participation in executive education programs, where he contributed to professional learning initiatives. He held instructional and presentation roles at several institutions, including the University of California, San Diego, where he served as a faculty member in the executive education program.

In addition to teaching, he contributed to the development of curricula for business programs at other institutions, including the University of Phoenix. These experiences allowed him to blend academic structure with real-world business application.

Before founding his consulting firm, he held several leadership and management positions. These included serving as Head of Enrollment at the University of Phoenix, as General Manager of Productivity Point's San Diego office, and as an associate partner at a consulting firm based in San Diego. During his time in consulting, he focused on corporate leadership while supporting clients with challenges related to team execution, organizational change, and sales and marketing effectiveness.

Educational background

Leland Sandler completed his undergraduate studies at the University of California, Berkeley, graduating in 1975. He earned a bachelor's degree in history and later obtained secondary teaching credentials while continuing his academic work at the same institution.

Seven years after completing his undergraduate education, he earned a master's degree in education from San Francisco State University. Following this achievement, he pursued further studies at Pepperdine University in Los Angeles County. He completed his MBA in 1988, adding a strong business focus to his academic background and professional preparation.

Associations and awards

Leland served for five years as a board member of the Growth Edge Network, an international coaching association founded in 2011. The organization provides a platform for individuals interested in personal development, professional growth, and transformational change, and operates globally.

He is also recognized as a trusted source of executive coaching within the San Diego biotech industry. The region's biotech sector includes major companies such as Amylin, Dexcom, and NuVasive. The area benefits from close collaboration between industry leaders and respected research institutions, including San Diego State University and its many research centers that support innovation and scholarship.

Earlier in his career at the University of Phoenix, he was elected faculty lead after demonstrating strong performance as a curriculum developer for the business program. In addition to his professional work, he was an accomplished athlete, having been a member of his intercollegiate volleyball team at UC Berkeley and a winning player.

Philanthropy and charitable involvement

Sandler has a long-standing history of supporting charities, nonprofit organizations, and community causes. His involvement includes both financial contributions and volunteer service, reflecting a consistent commitment to giving back.

In a professional capacity, he completed five years of pro bono work with the San Diego Opera, focusing on leadership development and team effectiveness. He has also carried out extensive pro bono work with officers from the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marine Corps.

Through this work, he provides guidance and support to former military personnel who are transitioning into civilian careers. In addition, he volunteers with the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce's Defense, Veterans & Military Affairs Council.

Personal interests and hobbies

Leland Sandler lives in Morrison, Colorado, a mountain town located in Jefferson County, approximately ten miles west of Denver. The city sits at the base of Bear Creek Canyon and is well known for the Red Rocks Amphitheatre, an open-air concert venue built into the natural rock formations of the surrounding landscape.

Outside of his professional and charitable commitments, Leland Sandler maintains a range of personal interests. These include cross-country skiing, hiking, photography, reading, and writing short stories.