



WAKULLA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LEADERSHIP WAKULLA

A Program of the Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce

2024 Program Description and Application

Leadership Class #1

Thank you for taking an interest in improving yourself as a local business professional. Leadership Wakulla is a program of the Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce. The program will launch in Fall 2024 with one Leadership Class per year. Leadership Wakulla is modeled after other successful Chamber leadership programs, and the first class will have twelve members in the cohort. The sessions present activities and hands-on experiences related to leadership topics.

MISSION:

Leadership Wakulla cultivates, educates, and prepares a diverse network of emerging and experienced leaders committed to improving our community.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Demonstrate leadership attributes through career achievements or participation in community activities.
- Represent a cross-section from business, government, and non-profit organizations.
- Reside in Wakulla County.
- Identify and analyze challenges, consider various perspectives, and then provide solutions.
- Value continuous learning, commitments to personal and professional development, and the perspectives of others.

BENEFITS:

- Interact with the leaders from the various sectors of our community.
- Learn from “unlike”-minded people to build strong professional relationships.
- Develop an awareness of and participate in discussions on significant challenges and opportunities in the community by examining relevant business, government, and social issues.
- Enhance your understanding of your leadership style to grow into higher-level roles in the workplace and the community.
- Become more engaged and able to deliver creative solutions.
- Deepen your company’s profile with the community, business, and government leaders through visibility and commitment to community success.

CURRICULUM:

The program begins in August 2024 and ends in May 2025. The sessions present activities and hands-on experiences related to leadership topics, i.e., economic development, education and workforce, culture and history, justice, public safety, government, sustainability and human services and healthcare.

PROGRAM COMMITMENT:

- You must have the full support of your sponsoring organization/business.
- Must be provided administrative leave for the time necessary to complete the program. At a minimum, this will be one full workday per month of the program.
- Must maintain an ongoing commitment to Leadership Wakulla after graduation and volunteer to help future leadership classes.

TIME COMMITMENT:

The Leadership Wakulla Class #1 will kick off in August 2024 and graduate in May 2025. Participants must attend monthly program days, participate in a community event, attend one school board meeting and one county commission meeting, and participate in a class project. Class participants will also volunteer at one Chamber event.

Following Leadership Wakulla Graduation, participants will be expected to support the program through annual alumni dues of \$100, serve on planning committees for future cohorts, and maintain contact information.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

- An independent selection committee will score the applications and select twelve participants from applications submitted to Leadership Wakulla.
- Incomplete or late applications are automatically disqualified.
- Applications are due April 19, 2024, with a \$30 non-refundable Application Fee.
- The Leadership Wakulla Committee will privately contact candidates selected for Leadership Class #1 to confirm participation. The cohort will be announced through the Chamber newsletter and social media.
- Candidates not accepted may reapply in subsequent years.

TUITION:

Tuition for Leadership Wakulla is \$750 for Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce Members or \$850 for non-members. Tuition covers all program materials. Cash, check, or credit card will be accepted upon acceptance to the program. Tuition is due in full by July 1, 2024, unless a payment plan has been approved.

2024-2025 CLASS SCHEDULE

Orientation: Tuesday, August 20, 2024, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Program Day 1: Wednesday, September 4, 2024

Program Day 2: Thursday, October 10, 2024

Program Day 3: Thursday, November 14, 2024

Program Day 4: Thursday, December 5, 2024

Program Day 5: Thursday, January 9, 2025

Program Day 6: Thursday, February 13, 2025

Program Day 7: Thursday, March 6, 2025

Program Day 8: Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Class Graduation: Thursday, May 8, 2025

Make-up Day (if needed): Thursday, June 5, 2025

(All program days are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)



WAKULLA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LEADERSHIP WAKULLA

2024 Application

Deadline: complete your electronic submission by April 19, 2024, and upload your resume, two letters of recommendation, and a signed approval from your supervisor.

PERSONAL DATA:

Name:

Member of Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce Non-Member

Home Address:

Cell Phone:

Business/Organization:

Business Phone:

Business President or CEO:

Direct Supervisor:

Current Position Title:

How long have you been with the company?

Shirt size:

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability. 250 – 500 words each.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Describe the leadership roles or activities you have engaged in within your organization.

What do you consider to be your single most significant professional accomplishment? Why?

YOUR VIEW OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Name the three most challenging issues Wakulla County is facing:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

From your list, identify and discuss one particular issue, opportunity, or problem you feel to be essential to Wakulla County residents or businesses. Share your thoughts, concerns, obstacles, and ideas on addressing the issue. What is needed to make a positive change?

Name the three most significant assets of Wakulla County:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Identify and discuss one particular asset from your list and why you feel it is essential to Wakulla County residents or businesses. Describe the steps you take to assist with problems or develop the asset. What is needed to continue to develop the asset in a positive way?

What can you contribute to Leadership Wakulla?

How can Leadership Wakulla help you grow?

How do you expect to use your Leadership Wakulla experience in the future?

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

It is essential to capture the extent of your volunteer activities outside of work, including any leadership roles and demonstrated impact from your involvement. List the most impactful civic activities you have participated in during the last five years. For each activity, indicate the nature of your participation, service projects, leadership roles, and why you chose this activity. These activities can include, but are not limited to, community organizations, churches, children's activities, and industry organizations.

1. Organization:
Time Period of Involvement/Membership:
Participation/Responsibility/Accomplishments:

Service Projects:

Leadership Roles:

Why did you choose this activity?

2. Organization:
Time Period of Involvement/Membership:
Participation/Responsibility/Accomplishments:

Service Projects:

Leadership Roles:

Why did you choose this activity?

3. Organization:
Time Period of Involvement/Membership:
Participation/Responsibility/Accomplishments:

Service Projects:

Leadership Roles:

Why did you choose this activity?

4. Organization:

Time Period of Involvement/Membership:

Participation/Responsibility/Accomplishments:

Service Projects:

Leadership Roles:

Why did you choose this activity?

5. Organization:
Time Period of Involvement/Membership:
Participation/Responsibility/Accomplishments:

Service Projects:

Leadership Roles:

Why did you choose this activity?

OR

I have been unable to participate in civic activities during the past five years because:

From your list above, choose one and explain how your involvement helped you grow, what you found rewarding and challenging, any changes you implemented, and the major outcomes you experienced. If you held a leadership position, evaluate your success and at least one area you want to improve in.

CONFIDENTIALITY:

I understand the Leadership Class may discuss topics of a sensitive nature throughout the program year. If selected, I will respect my classmates and others by maintaining confidentiality. “What happens in Leadership Wakulla stays in Leadership Wakulla.”

DECLARED/ELECTED POLICY:

Members of Leadership Wakulla may participate in the political process by supporting candidates and running for office. However, I understand that if I become a candidate during the program year, I am not permitted to campaign while participating in Leadership Wakulla events and activities. I will not solicit monetary donations or pledges of support, announce myself as a candidate during introductions, wear political apparel, or distribute signage or promotional materials.

NO SOLICITATION AND NO DISTRIBUTION POLICY:

Members of Leadership Wakulla must abide by a No Solicitation and No Distribution Policy. If selected as a class member, I will not solicit support for or distribute materials for other organizations outside of Leadership Wakulla, including, but not limited to, fundraising materials, church or business activities, or community events. I understand this prevents disruption and ensures a productive work and academic environment.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:

Two letters of recommendation are required and must be uploaded with your application. Reference letters should be limited to one page, and both should be professional references.

Your recommendation letters should include:

- Your relationship/affiliation (no relatives)
- One example that demonstrates your leadership capabilities.
- Why you would be an excellent candidate for Leadership Wakulla.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY:

- If accepted, payment for Leadership Wakulla is due July 1, 2024.
- Cancellation must be made in writing to info@wakullacountychamber.com.

- Cancellation on or before July 15, 2024, will be given a full tuition refund. Cancellation between July 15 and August 1, 2024, will be given a 50% refund of the total tuition amount if another candidate can fill the Leadership Wakulla spot. Cancellations after August 1, 2024, will not be refunded. Application fees are not refundable.
- Any participant who misses more than two sessions will be dropped from the program. Tuition will not be refunded.

COMMITMENT:

Full commitment and participation of each selected individual for Leadership Wakulla is required. Participants are expected to attend all sessions. If selected, I am fully prepared to be an active participant, and I will devote the time, energy, enthusiasm, and support required to complete the Leadership Wakulla Program. I have read and understood the tuition policy, and I have permission from my employer to participate. I agree to abide by the rules of conduct and all program requirements. I understand that violating policies can result in removal from the program.

Signature

Date

Note: Once completed, download the application and email along with additional documents to info@wakullacountychamber.com. Applications can only be received via e-mail.



WAKULLA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LEADERSHIP WAKULLA

EMPLOYER AUTHORIZATION:

I, _____, agree to provide full support for my employee, _____, to participate in Leadership Wakulla effectively. I have approved the submission of this application and the time and financial commitments required for participation. I understand that Application Fees and Tuition are not refundable and that our company cannot substitute a different employee for the program.

Signed

Dated