



# Leadership Laurentian Application

***Lead with Vision. Build Community. Shape the Iron Range.***

Hosted by The Laurentian Chamber of Commerce

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Leadership Laurentian is an original, nine-month leadership experience designed to equip leaders with the character, courage, communication, and confidence to shape the future of Northeastern Minnesota. Through site visits, behind-the-scenes access, and dynamic leadership training grounded in the *7 Pillars of Influence* (Character, Courage, Confidence, Communication, Culture, Competence, and Coaching), this program builds the leaders our region needs, now and into the future.

As a member of our **inaugural cohort**, you won't just participate in the program, you'll help build it. This first class will play a vital role in shaping the program's future, supporting the next generation of participants, and laying the foundation for a lasting alumni network across the Iron Range.

Participants are expected to be community stewards: curious learners, collaborative thinkers, and committed citizens who care deeply about our region. After graduation, alumni are encouraged to remain involved as program architects and ambassadors, cohort connectors, and advocates for regional leadership.

## WHO SHOULD APPLY

- Business owners, managers, and civic leaders
- Emerging professionals with leadership potential
- Community-minded individuals looking to grow and contribute
- Leaders who are newer to the Iron Range and committed to long-term engagement

## PROGRAM DATES

### Cohort 1 Class Sessions:

- **October 28–29** | Kickoff: Human Services & Nonprofits
- **November 18** | Tourism, Arts & Culture
- **January 20** | Business & Economic Development
- **February 17** | Health & Wellness
- **March 17** | Education
- **April 21** | Government
- **May 19** | Mining & Manufacturing
- **June 16** | Project Presentation & Graduation

**Time Commitment:** One full-day session per month. Full participation is required; only one absence is permitted.

**Tuition:** \$999 per participant (includes all materials, speakers, meals, assessments)

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete all sections below. You may attach a resume, but all questions must be answered directly.

### 1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

- Full Name:
- Preferred Name (if different):
- Pronouns (optional):
- Email:
- Phone:
- Home Address:
- Employer/Organization:
- Job Title:
- Years in Current Role:
- Sector: ☐ Business ☐ Nonprofit ☐ Government ☐ Other:
- How long have you lived or worked on the Iron Range?

### 2. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

In Leadership Laurentian, *leadership* is defined broadly, not just by title, but by influence, initiative, and impact. We value both formal and informal leadership roles in professional, volunteer, or community settings.

#### Describe your leadership experience:

This may include managing teams, leading projects, organizing initiatives, mentoring, or community engagement. (200-word limit)

#### List key roles or projects that highlight your leadership:

For each, include:

- Role/Title
- Organization
- Dates of involvement
- Brief description of your leadership impact (50 words max each)

### 3. CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION & VALUES

At first glance, which of the 7 Pillars — Character, Courage, Confidence, Communication, Culture, Competence, or Coaching — resonates most with your leadership journey, and why? (Choose one or two pillars that speak to you and briefly explain.) (150-word limit)

Tell us about a time you worked across differences (industry, background, belief, etc.) to solve a problem or achieve a goal.

(100-word limit)

**Are you currently engaged in your community outside of work?**

☐ Yes     ☐ Not yet

If yes, briefly describe your involvement. *(150-word limit)*

#### **4. PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL GROWTH**

**What do you hope to gain from Leadership Laurentian?** *(150-word limit)*

**How do you hope to contribute to the cohort and the Iron Range through your participation?**  
*(100-word limit)*

**What does leadership on the Iron Range mean to you?** *(100-word limit)*

**As a member of our inaugural class, you'll help shape the future of this program. What does it mean to you to be part of something that's just beginning? How would you support the legacy and the next generation of leaders?** *(100-word limit)*

#### **5. FINAL NOTES & COMMITMENT**

**Is there anything else you'd like us to know about you, your background, or your leadership story?**  
*(Optional – 150-word limit)*

**SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:** [president@laurentianchamber.org](mailto:president@laurentianchamber.org)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 21, 2025**

For questions or assistance, contact:

**Teresa Appelwick**

*President & CEO*

Laurentian Chamber of Commerce

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**Steve Rahkola**

*Marketing Manager*

**NorthRidge Community Credit Union**

Leadership Laurentian Steering Committee Chair

[SteveR@nrccu.org](mailto:SteveR@nrccu.org)