



LEADERSHIP BENTON COUNTY

A PROGRAM BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



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Program Overview

Help us set the stage for a great Leadership Benton County Program by knowing what to expect in the coming year.

Session Schedule

Check your schedule, we've planned out all the sessions so you can know ahead of time.

Application Checklist

Join this great group of leaders who want to serve Benton County. Here's everything you need to apply.

Application

This form is attached for your convenience.
You can also find it on our website.

Participant/Employer Commitment Form

This form is attached for your convenience.
You can also find it on our website.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Leaders are not born; they are developed. We must ensure the success of our community by cultivating talented individuals who will emerge and lead us into the future. There is no better training ground for our future leaders than Leadership Benton County (LBC). The keys to the future of Northwest Arkansas are knowledgeable and skilled leaders who have an awareness and understanding of all facets of our community; including government, business, education, recreation, utilities, infrastructure, housing, health care, social services and more.

Our Purpose

Leadership Benton County will inspire and connect leaders to serve their community.

Objectives

- Participants will identify their strengths and passions that can be leveraged to serve their community.
- Participants will understand the strengths, needs, and inter-connected systems that provide opportunities within our community.
- Participants will be able to apply and build their social networks and connections.
- Participants will emerge as board-ready leaders who are equipped to step into open opportunities.
- Participants will be prepared to share their experience, bringing knowledge back to their employers and teammates.

Curriculum

The program consists of seven day-long sessions, which last from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. from January through September. Additional sessions include an Opening Reception, two-day Retreat, overnight Little Rock trip and a Graduation Celebration. Session topics include Personal Leadership, Agriculture, Education, Economy, Healthcare, City & County Government, State Government, Quality of Life and Non-Profit Organizations.

Time Commitment

This program requires a significant time commitment; we ask that you are aware and have full support before application submission. Participants are highly encouraged to attend every session, however, we understand that some situations are out of the participant's control. We do ask that you inform a program director of an absence as soon as the situation permits. Absence of more than 2 sessions will be subject to discussion with the LBC directors, the participant and their employer to determine graduation status.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Applicant Requirements:

- Be 21 years of age or older
- Have at least 2 years of work experience
- Live and/or work in Benton County
- Have an interest and passion to serve the Northwest Arkansas region
- Be willing to devote the required time toward the LBC program and all its requirements
- Have the intention to remain in Northwest Arkansas in the immediate future
- Display community and/or civic leadership through volunteer activities or desire to become more involved
- Demonstrate leadership skills and abilities in current job
- Demonstrate strong interpersonal skills and be proactive to community concerns
- Work to contribute to LBC in terms of participation and connecting with peers
- Have the required financial and time commitment of their employer

Participant Selection

Each year, the number of applications received exceeds the number of available slots. The LBC program gives careful consideration in choosing a diverse class which best represents the Northwest Arkansas community. Selected participants will vary in aspects of industry, education, community involvement, interests, ethnic and minority groups. Participants will be selected based upon information provided in the application, resume, reference letters and interview process.

Applicants approaching or currently in a decision-making position in their organization, individuals who have the potential for advancement into top leadership roles within their organization and/or individuals who play a significant role in the future of Benton County should apply.

Tuition

Tuition for this program is \$1,850. Tuition covers all sessions, materials, speaker and instructor fees, field trips, overnight lodging, meals, refreshments, tours and graduation. Tuition may be paid by employer or applicant. Tuition will be invoiced, pending acceptance into the LBC program.

Tuition must be paid in full by January 1, 2024.

"*Leaders*

become great,
not because of their
power, but because
of their ability to

empower others."

JOHN MAXWELL



SESSION SCHEDULE

*Regular sessions are scheduled
from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

Opening Reception	December 14, 2023
Retreat	January 18-19, 2024
Education	February 20, 2024
Economy	March 12, 2024
Agriculture	April 16, 2024
Quality of Life	May 21, 2024
State Government	June 18-19, 2024
Local Government	July 16, 2024
Healthcare	August 20, 2024
Non-Profit Organizations	September 10, 2024
Graduation	September 26, 2024

While we try to keep sessions consistent,
sessions are subject to change depending
on unforeseen planning conflicts.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- **Application**
- **Participant/Employer Commitment Form**
- **Current Resume that includes education and employment experience**

Application Deadline: October 20, 2023

Interviews will be conducted November 6-10, 2023

Thank You!

Thank you for your interest in Leadership Benton County. In order to ensure quality, our classes have a set capacity and are therefore competitive in nature. All applications will be reviewed by the LBC Program Directors. If your application is not selected this year, we encourage you to reapply.

APPLICATION

Contact Information

Full Name: _____ Preferred Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ What is your shirt size?: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Business/Employer Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Preferred Method of Contact: ☐ Email ☐ Phone ☐ Text

How long have you worked for your current employer?: _____

One interesting fact about yourself: _____

Achievements

Please list any extracurricular activities, leadership positions held, special honors and awards received.

What do you consider to be your highest career achievement to date?

Volunteer Activity

Please list your volunteer work; including any community, civic, religious, political, social, athletic, business/professional or other activities you were involved in and your main role in each.

Organization:	Position/Role:

How much time each month fo you commit to volunteer work? _____

What areas of interest do you have for current or future volunteer work? _____

General Information

What do you feel are the top three issues facing Benton County? Explain and please list any ideas you have in resolving these issues.

General Information

Why do you want to participate in Leadership Benton County, and what do you expect to gain from the program?

Deadline for Applications: October 20, 2023

Applicants will be notified of acceptance status by November 17, 2023

Please mail or email completed applications to one of the following:

Greater Bentonville Area Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 330
Bentonville, AR 72712

Rogers Lowell Chamber

317 West Walnut Street
Rogers, AR 72756

leadershipbentoncounty@gmail.com



PARTICIPANT/EMPLOYER COMMITMENT

Participant

I understand the purpose of Leadership Benton County and, if accepted, will devote the necessary time and resources to complete the program. I understand:

- **My employer may be contacted regarding my participation/attendance in the program.**
- **I am required to attend more than 75% of the sessions in order to graduate from the program.**
- **Tuition will not be refunded due to absence.**
- **Any misrepresented information on my application is grounds for dismissal from LBC.**

Applicant Signature

Date

Employer/Sponsor

This applicant has the full approval and support of this organization, which includes time (up to 12 full days) for his/her effective participation, and financial obligation (if applicable), which is to be paid in full by January 1, 2024. I understand that absence from more than two sessions will affect the applicant's ability to graduate from the program and tuition will not be refunded.

Employer Signature

Email Address

Date

Will **APPLICANT** or **EMPLOYER** be responsible for tuition? ☐ Applicant ☐ Employer