

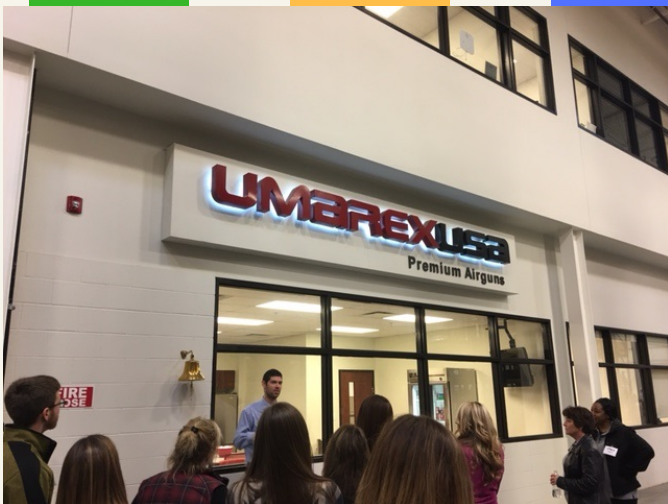
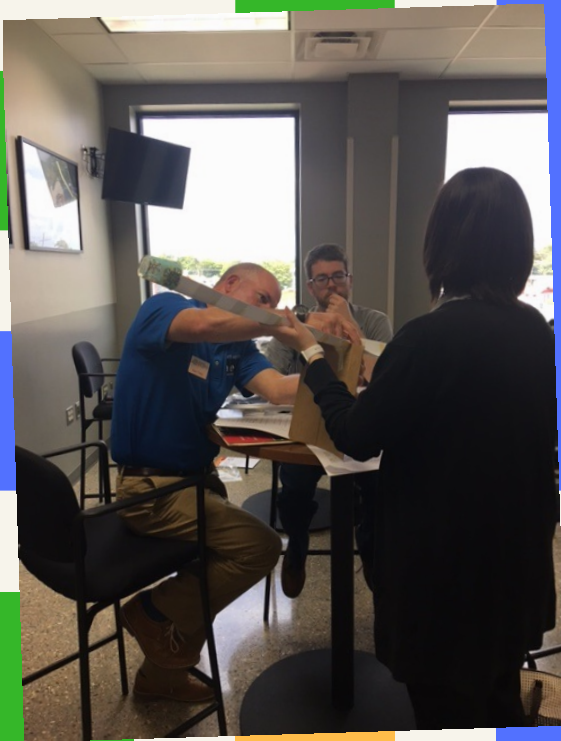


A program brought to you by:





LEADERSHIP
FORT SMITH
LEARN. CONNECT. LEAD.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Selection Criteria and Class Information

How do I get in?

Anyone can nominate someone for LFS – you can self-nominate as well! Be sure that all parts of your application are completed and turned in on time. Fill out the application legibly (preferably typed) so that the committee can easily read and understand your responses. Put your best foot forward! The selection committee will review each application, including letters of recommendation and your essay questions. The selection committee is made up of volunteers from both LFS Alumni and Chamber Board of Directors.

What is the selection committee looking for?

Leadership Fort Smith is designed to educate and motivate citizens to become leaders in our community. Participation in LFS comes with strings attached – we expect graduates to continue serving the Fort Smith Region, be a champion of community projects, and lead the future of Fort Smith. Therefore, the selection committee will be looking for both potential leaders and current leaders who have the ability to effectively participate in our community. The committee wants to see that an applicant has the motivation and the ability to work on projects or challenges, develop a solution, and take action.

I've applied before and was not accepted. Why should I apply again?

Each year the selection committee makes every effort to put together a diverse class, representative of multiple business sectors, backgrounds, ages, etc. There is always a chance that an applicant comes from a crowded demographic pool that year. For example, if there are 15 bankers in the pool, it's going to be less likely that a particular banker will be admitted that year. Conversely, if there is only one applicant from the non-profit field, it is more likely that individual would be admitted. Of course, the larger the applicant pool, the tougher it becomes to select only 25 participants – so please don't be discouraged if you are not admitted the first time.

Why should I commit so much time away from work for Leadership Fort Smith?

Leadership Fort Smith is more than just another accomplishment on your resume. LFS is a professional development opportunity that benefits the employee, the employer, and our region. It is a commitment to your community and a call to action. The time spent learning and getting connected through the sessions is crucial to having the tools you need to be a leader in our community. Upon graduation, you will be connected to an active, energized network of alumni that will help keep you informed, motivated, and engaged in community efforts. The time spent with your classmates will create a special bond; you will build lasting friendships and a network of trusted colleagues.

I've lived in Fort Smith my entire life. Why should I do Leadership Fort Smith?

The goal of the LFS curriculum is to provide our participants with a 'back-stage pass' experience. You are going to see, hear, and learn the ins-and-outs of many aspects of our region that most citizens wouldn't normally experience. We guarantee you will learn something new or meet someone new at each session.



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Class of 2019 Schedule

Please take these dates into consideration before submitting an application:

***Most dates are on Thursday unless otherwise noted**

Application Deadline – May 18, 2018

New Class Reception (Announcement of Participants) – July 12, 2018

Orientation – July 26, 2018

Opening Retreat – August 24 – 25, 2018 (*Friday - Saturday)

Past, Present & Future Session – September 13, 2018

P-12 Education Session – October 11, 2018

Higher Education & Workforce Development – November 1, 2018

Community Outreach – November 29, 2018

Crime & the Courts Session – December 13, 2018

Local Government – January 24, 2019

State Government – February 12, 2019 (*Tuesday)

Healthcare – March 14, 2019

Economic Development – April 4, 2019

Closing Session – May 2, 2019

Commencement – May 16, 2019



APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Class of 2019 Application Instructions

A completed packet must include:

1. The application on pages 4-6
2. A copy of your current resume
3. Responses to the essay questions listed on page 6, printed on separate pages.

All of these items can be mailed to:

Leadership Fort Smith

612 Garrison Avenue

Fort Smith, AR 72901

or emailed directly to dyoung@fortsmithchamber.com

4. Two letters of recommendation. The preference would be that at least one of your letters comes from a professional reference.

Letters of recommendation should include the following:

- Your connection to the applicant (how long have you known him/her and in what capacity)
- The applicant's leadership ability, accomplishments, teamwork, etc. that you have observed. Share their motivation and ability to take the lead on projects.
- Explain why the applicant would be an excellent participant for LFS and how he/she could make an impact in our community
- Please include contact information.

Please have your recommendation letters mailed directly to

Leadership Fort Smith

612 Garrison Avenue

Fort Smith, AR 72901

or emailed directly to dyoung@fortsmithchamber.com

5. Completion of tuition payment procedures on Page 7. The selection committee will not review this page.

ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 18, 2018

Please print clearly or type answers so that the committee can easily read your application.

Please note that both the applicant and the applicant's employer must sign the Statement of Commitment on page 6.





Application for the Leadership Fort Smith Class of 2019

Applicant Information

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Last First M.I.

Home Address: _____
Street Address Apartment/Unit #

City State ZIP Code

Phone: _____ Email _____

How long have you lived or worked in the Fort Smith region? _____

Have you previously applied for Leadership Fort Smith? YES NO Have you confirmed that you can attend all sessions planned for the Class of 2019? YES NO

Education

High School: _____ City, State: _____

College: _____ City, State: _____

Major/Minor: _____ Did you graduate? YES NO Degree: _____

Additional Education _____ City, State: _____

Major/Minor: _____ Did you graduate? YES NO Degree: _____



Current Employer

Company: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Supervisor: _____

Job Title: _____

Responsibilities: _____

Please include a copy of your current resume

Community Involvement (include an additional sheet if necessary)

Organization	Duties, Projects, Position held	Years of Service	Phone

Personal Information (Optional)

Spouse's Name: _____

Names & Ages of Children: _____

Do you require any special accommodations?
Please let us know here: _____

Race/Ethnicity: _____ Age: _____ Male Female

Military Service (Optional)

Branch: _____ From: _____ To: _____

Rank at Discharge: _____



COMMITMENT FORM

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please submit answers typed on a separate sheet of paper.

1. What is one of your proudest accomplishments, either personally and professionally? Explain how you demonstrated leadership, perseverance, and/or a can-do attitude to accomplish your goal.
2. What motivates you to apply for Leadership Fort Smith and what do you hope to gain or learn from the program? What do you feel you can contribute to the program and ultimately, our community?

Statement of Commitment with Signatures

APPLICANT'S COMMITMENT:

I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. By signing and completing this application, I affirm that if selected:

I understand I am expected to attend all LFS sessions, including the Opening and Closing retreats.

I understand that there will be some activities in addition to the regular sessions that I may be expected to participate in such as team meetings, tours, interviews, etc.

I understand that tuition for the program is \$1500 and that all participants must pay \$250 personally, to show a commitment to the program.

I understand that the full amount of tuition is due to the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce no later than August 15th, 2018 unless other arrangements have been made with the Director.

I understand that I may see and hear things during sessions that are not to be shared publicly, either through electronic or print media, social media, photographs, texts, or directly with media outlets.

I understand that I cannot use my participation in LFS in a political campaign to imply endorsement from the LFS program or the Chamber.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

EMPLOYER'S COMMITMENT:

Our company fully supports the applicant's participation in the LFS program, should he/she be selected.

As the applicant's supervisor, I understand that participation in the LFS program will require time away from work for sessions. I also understand that during sessions, my employee should only check work email and messages while on breaks unless an emergency arises.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



TUITION & FUNDING

This page is not part of the application that the selection committee will review.

Tuition for each participant is \$1,500 which covers the entire program costs: meals, transportation, lodging, and materials. We ask that each participant make a personal financial commitment of at least \$250, due by August 15, 2018. If your employer pays the balance, that is also due by August 15th. Financial arrangements can be made if necessary. We do not want tuition to be a barrier for participation.

Tuition Assistance Options:

1. **Extended Payment Plan***: The initial payment of \$250 is due by August 15, 2018 and the remaining tuition can be paid out over 8 months (Sept. – April). **Tuition must be paid in full before Commencement.**
2. **Sponsorship**: Are you affiliated with any civic or community organizations that might contribute to your tuition? If so, please visit directly with that organization in regard to program costs. Should any questions arise, they can contact the LFS Director.
3. **Tuition Assistance** from the Leadership Fort Smith Alumni Association. Assistance from the LFS Alumni is limited to applicants who represent a non-profit, government, or education institution. What portion of the program cost (less your personal commitment) are you seeking assistance?

25% 50%

All applicants please complete the following Tuition Payment information:

Personally \$ _____ Minimum of \$250 personal commitment required

Personally \$ _____ Payment Plan* Pay In Full

Employer \$ _____ Name of Employer: _____

Billing Contact: _____

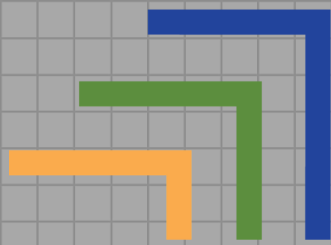
Organization
or Sponsor: \$ _____ Name of Organization: _____

Billing Contact: _____

*If I am selected for LFS and have chosen the Extended Payment Plan, I agree to pay the full amount of program costs even if I withdraw from the program or if I am dropped from class for not meeting attendance requirements.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



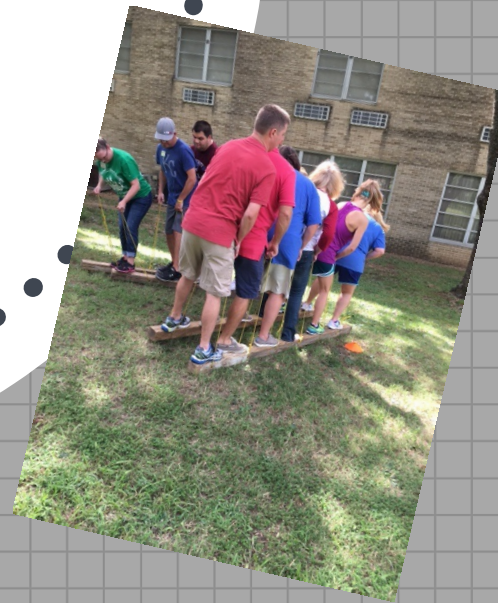
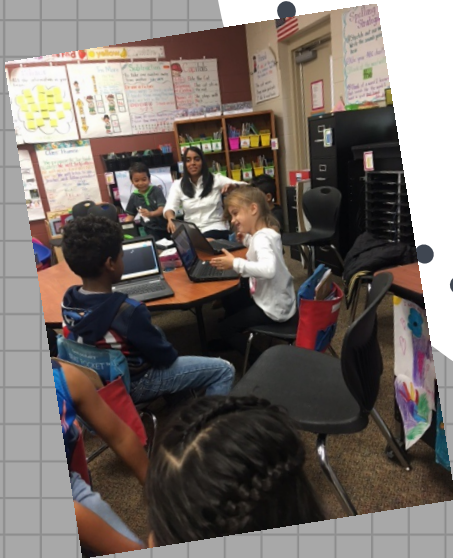


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"Leadership
is not a
position or
a title, it is
action and
example."

~UNKNOWN



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Debra Young - Senior Education Coordinator
Fort Smith Regional Chamber of Commerce
(479)783-3111
dyoung@fortsmithchamber.com