



The mission of the DeKalb Leadership Academy is to develop and cultivate all participants with a passion to serve our community through a dynamic learning experience that encourages self-discovery, fosters relationships, embraces differences and inspires stewards.

The DeKalb Leadership Academy expands your network and further develops your leadership perspective through community exposure and engagement.

CONFIDENTIAL APPLICATION *DEKALB LEADERSHIP ACADEMY*

Selection into the DeKalb Leadership Academy will be based upon your:

- Commitment to attending every full-day (8am to 5pm), monthly session (10 in total)
- Desire to learn about the DeKalb County community and dedication to become more involved within it – at work, in government, in nonprofit organizations, etc.
- Past, current or future desire to volunteer in agencies directly benefitting DeKalb County.
- Ability to contribute to the overall experience of the DeKalb Leadership Academy: participating in the conversation, coming prepared to each class, asking questions and helping yourself and others get the most out of the academy.
- Knowledge or experience necessary to determine the issues present in DeKalb County along with the desire to be a part of the change required to address those issues.
- Three completed recommendation forms written by those familiar with your leadership, service or work activities, are required. Forward a copy of the attached *Confidential Recommendation Form* to your references and have them return the completed form to **one** of the following:
 - Email to matt.duffy@dekalb.org
 - Mail/Drop-off to: DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, 130 W. Lincoln Hwy. Suite 200
DeKalb, IL 60115
RE: DeKalb Leadership Academy

All applications should be carefully completed and must be received by the Chamber by **Tuesday, April 30, 2024**. All three recommendation forms should be sent in by Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

Apply early and understand an interview with the Leadership Academy Advisory Committee may be necessary. A maximum of 25 students will be accepted for the class. Admittance into the class may depend upon the need for diversity among several fields of work, (i.e. banking, government, nonprofit, industry, education, etc.).

Please refer to the dates below to ensure you can fulfill the commitment for participation. Attendance for every session is required. More information will be made available upon request

2024-2025 Class Schedule

Session days are held on the second Wednesday of each month beginning on September 11th to June 11th. A complete schedule will be provided at the first session. A formal graduation will follow in June 2025.



GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Length of residence in DeKalb County: _____ Length of employment in DeKalb County: _____

CURRENT EMPLOYER: _____ Date Began: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Present Title or Responsibility: _____ Since: _____

Do you work remotely? Yes ___ No ___

PREVIOUS EMPLOYERS RESPONSIBILITY DATES FROM-TO

What do you consider your highest responsibility, skill or career achievement to date?

EDUCATION *(Last 3 schools)*

NAME & CITY OF SCHOOL DEGREE MAJOR DATES FROM-TO

ACTIVITY/SERVICE

List up to four other community, civic, professional, business, religious, social, athletic, and other organizations of which you are or have been a member:

ORGANIZATION POSITION SERVICE HOURS/MONTH DATES FROM-TO

Please indicate any special recognition or awards received for volunteer/service activities:

Explain your involvement or interest in getting more involved in the community?

ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES

Explain what you hope to gain from your DeKalb Leadership Academy experience:

In your judgment, what do you consider as a pressing challenge that needs to be addressed by the people of DeKalb County? Explain why and identify your recommendations for approaching and resolving the issue.

What do you want us to know about you that you have not already listed in this application?

PERSONAL REFERENCES

(Three recommendation forms [on a separate form provided] from individuals familiar with your leadership, service or work activities are required for application. Please list the names of those references here.)

NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS

PHONE

ON A SEPARATE PAGE, PLEASE RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING 3 QUESTIONS:

What makes a great leader? Give examples of leaders that you've been around and how they were effective as a leader.

Identify a leadership position you have held, or currently hold, and why it is important to you. Describe at least one challenge that you have faced in a leadership role and how you addressed it. Leadership roles can be related to work, social groups, community groups, etc.

Aside from the information provided on this application, what else would you like us to know about you that would be appropriate towards your acceptance in the program? Include any information about skills, background, past experiences, etc.

COMMITMENT FOR PARTICIPATION

In order for the DeKalb Leadership Academy to accomplish its mission and objectives, the full participation of each individual selected is required. This includes one full day per month for the duration of the program, a fundraising event and participation in a service project with your fellow classmates. **Attendance is mandatory at all 10 monthly sessions, fundraiser, class project and graduation.**

1) I will be able to fulfill this time commitment.

Applicant's signature _____

2) I have the full support of my employer and family for the time to participate in DeKalb Leadership Academy.

Applicant's signature _____

3) Employer Commitment: *I as the applicant's employer understand the dedication and commitment needed to develop leadership qualities. I support this applicant's participation and time commitment needed to successfully complete the program.*

Employer's signature _____

FINANCES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

If you are accepted into the DeKalb Leadership Academy, you or your company/sponsoring organization will be billed for the special early bird tuition fee of **\$995.00 (\$105 savings) for Chamber members**, which is due and payable by **August 1, 2024, however, payment plans will be considered if needed.**

Tuition bill should be sent to:

Applicant

Sponsor

Partial scholarships are available on a limited basis. Are you in need of tuition assistance? Yes No

Applicant's Signature

Date

Sponsor's Signature

Date

RETURN BY APRIL 30, 2024 TO:

DeKalb Leadership Academy
130 W. Lincoln Highway, Suite 200
DeKalb, IL 60115
matt.duffy@dekalb.org

