

LEADERSHIP

CLEVELAND

Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce



Explore. Learn. Connect.

At the Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce, we believe that leadership is a journey that never ends.

The Leadership Cleveland program has been a staple in the Cleveland and Bradley County community since 1984, graduating over 500 participants in the business community.

At its core, Leadership Cleveland provides business and non-profit professionals with the opportunity to connect and contribute to their community through a 9-month in-depth learning program designed by graduates of the program. The program will help both current and emerging leaders understand the dynamics of the community and the role leadership plays in its long-term success.

The Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce and our Leadership Cleveland Steering Committee are committed to delivering the same exceptional experience that has been the hallmark of the program for the last 39 years. We pledge to deliver this experience for the 2023-2024 class.

If you have any questions or need clarification about the 2023-2024 class, please email Lisa Fain, vice president of Operations, at LFain@clevelandchamber.com.

Alumni Quotes

“One of the best decisions I have made of recent was to apply for acceptance in Leadership. The relationships, the experience and the connections are invaluable. I have grown personally and professionally from the class and am grateful to have participated with my peers.” - *David Parris, Rackley Roofing, Class of 2021-2022*

“The Leadership Cleveland Program was an extremely rewarding experience for me personally and professionally. From building relationships with my peers to seeing firsthand the inner workings of the various facets of how our community operates, the program cannot be beat. I would highly recommend it to anyone.” - *Rob Hyland, Bank of Cleveland, Class of 2022-2023*

2023-2024 CLASS DAYS

ORIENTATION &

WELCOME RECEPTION

Thursday, Sept. 14, 4 - 6 p.m.

Celebrate the start of the Leadership Cleveland program! Participants will have a brief orientation session followed by a reception with the Leadership Cleveland Alumni Association.

OPENING RETREAT

Tuesday, Sept. 19,

8:30a.m. – 4 p.m.

Mandatory

Our opening retreat will be held at Johnston Woods Retreat Center where you will get to know your classmates with carefully designed team building and personal development exercises.

COMMUNITY

AWARENESS/TOURISM

Thursday, Oct. 19

Learn what makes our community special and how tourism plays a major role in our economy with Chamber and community representatives and tours of area attractions.

EDUCATION

Thursday, Nov. 16

From primary to college, Education Day sends the class back to school. We tour both city and county facilities and meet with administrators preparing our future workforce.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Monday, Dec. 11

Explore how our local governments, both city and county, work behind the scenes. Meet with local elected officials and discuss issues and challenges facing our community.

PUBLIC SAFETY/ ENVIRONMENT

Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024

Look behind the scenes at how our community infrastructure operates from garbage to water safety to fire protection.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Thursday, Feb. 8, 2024

On this day we explore how our various professional law enforcement agencies keep our community safe.

STATE GOVERNMENT

Monday & Tuesday,

March 25 – 26, 2024

Mandatory

We travel to Nashville for this two-day session to meet with our local legislative delegation and witness first-hand the workings of state government.

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Take an in-depth look at the non-profits working in the community in this area along with a tour of Tennova Healthcare—Cleveland.

LOCAL ECONOMY

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Cleveland and Bradley County are a great place for business!

Discover how local leaders are driving the economic progress and visit some local manufacturers.

GRADUATION LUNCHEON

Wednesday, May 22, 2024,

noon Celebrate the completion of the class year with alumni and guests at the end of year graduation luncheon.

All class days begin at 8 a.m. and end at approximately 4:30 p.m.

LEADERSHIP IS A JOURNEY THAT IS MEASURED BY WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT.



APPLICATION PROCESS

Who should apply for Leadership Cleveland?

Professionals who live or work in Cleveland/Bradley County who are interested in enhancing their leadership skills, involvement, and knowledge of the community.

Applicants must have the full support (financial and time) of their employer or be self-employed.

Application Instructions:

Please complete the following:

- Part 1: Overview
- Part 2: Essay Questions
- Part 3: Applicant Commitment
- Part 4: Sponsor Commitment

Attach a professional headshot to be used for promotional and publicity purposes. Photos should be 600px X 600px and reflect you as a professional.

All materials are to be completed and sent to LFain@clevelandchamber.com by **Friday, August 18, at 5 p.m.** In the event we have more applications than space available, a screening committee will review the applications and select the best diverse class.

***Limited funding is available for nonprofit executive/staff scholarships.
Please request a supplemental application if interested.***

“Leadership Cleveland has been a life-changing experience for me. It has not only enhanced my leadership abilities but also broadened my perspective, deepened my understanding of community issues, and empowered me to become a more effective change agent. I am grateful for the opportunities, relationships, and insights I gained through this program, and I am committed to using my newfound knowledge and skills to contribute meaningfully to the betterment of our city and society.” - *Shane Lawson, Cleveland Utilities, Class of 2022-2023*

PART 1: OVERVIEW



All sections must be completed prior to submission.

Full Name: _____ Preferred Name for Nametags: _____

Are you a Bradley County resident? YES NO

Mailing Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

Special Interests/Hobbies: _____

Current Employer: _____ Year of Hire: _____

Title: _____

Brief Description of Responsibilities: _____

Preferred Email: _____

Any special dietary needs? _____

Please list college degrees and/or specialized training in the grid below:

Name of Institution:	Location:	Dates:	Degree:	Major:

Please list examples of your most recent volunteer involvement, board positions, charity events, etc.

Name of Organization:	Responsibilities:	Dates:

PART 2: ESSAY QUESTIONS



In 200 words or less, please answer the following questions.

Describe your current position and your professional background.

What community activities, past and present, have you devoted your time to?

What do you hope to gain by participating in this program?

PART 3: APPLICANT COMMITMENT

Name: _____

Sponsorship (*Choose One*)

- Tuition to be paid by employer/company
- Tuition to be paid in part by employer/part by applicant
- Tuition to be paid by applicant

- I understand and accept the goals and commitments of the Leadership Cleveland program and if selected, will devote the time and effort necessary for successful completion of the program.

- I have reserved all session dates on my calendar and verify that I have no conflicts.

- I understand that I must attend all sessions including the orientation, mandatory retreat, and the Nashville State Government trip to graduate. For health or personal emergencies, a maximum of one (either in part or one day) may be reviewed and excused.

- I understand tuition is \$1,350 for Chamber members and \$1,600 for non-members. The Chamber will send an invoice and full payment is due by October 31, 2023. I understand tuition is non-refundable and non-transferable.

- By submitting this application, I authorize the Chamber to use my image in videos, photos, or other media to promote the program.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

PART 4: SPONSOR COMMITMENT



Must be completed by sponsor.

Name of Sponsor/Supervisor: _____

Title: _____

Relation to Applicant: _____

Email: _____

This candidate has my full support to participate in Leadership Cleveland. I am aware of the time commitment involved in their active participation and understand the attendance requirements.

I understand tuition for Leadership Cleveland is \$1,350 (\$1,600 for non-members). The Chamber will send an invoice and full payment is due by October 31, 2023. I understand tuition is non-refundable and cannot be transferred.

Sponsor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

*Send completed application, along with your photo, by August 18, 2023, to
LFain@clevelandchamber.com.*