

 Leadership
Rockwall County
CONNECT • LEARN • IGNITE • SUCCEED
Class of 2027



Leadership Rockwall County Class of 2027 Application

LEADERSHIP ROCKWALL COUNTY



A Flagship program of the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce

Leadership Rockwall County (LRC) is a 9-month community leadership program designed to develop the skills leaders need to excel. The program includes a combination of in-depth issue seminars and skill development designed to enhance self-awareness of leadership approaches.

Participants are immersed in a full-day traveling class that includes guest speakers, hands-on experiences, tours, and relationship building. The goal of each class day is to challenge thinking and inspire participants to get involved in their community.

At the start of this 9-month program, participants are charged with the task of identifying projects that need attention. The class then plans and executes a Community Impact Day.

With over 325 graduates in total, Leadership Rockwall County produces a powerhouse of impactful community leaders and a thriving volunteer population that is more likely to serve on boards, volunteer, and give back to the community.

ESTEEMED HISTORY OF LEADERSHIP ROCKWALL



Today, Leadership Rockwall County is the single most unique opportunity for emerging and existing leaders to build, collaborate, and steward a vibrant, interconnected community in Rockwall and the surrounding area. The program identifies, educates, and develops leadership skills in approximately 15-20 individuals each year following a competitive application process.

These individuals will represent diverse background & be made up of multiple industries in the private and public sectors.

For 30 years, Leadership Rockwall County has served as the community-based leadership program designed to help individuals grow as leaders and engage in their community. The program provides community immersion experiences and advanced skill development.

The goals are simple...to CONNECT AND LEARN leadership potential...to IGNITE communications between present and future leaders...to INSPIRE new leaders to tackle tough community challenges in an informed and responsible manner with the goal of SUCCEEDING into a strong network of effective community leaders.

If you want a deeper connection to the community and believe leadership is an investment worth making in your career and civic stewardship, Leadership Rockwall County is for you! Application to LRC is open to persons living within the Rockwall Area.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS



Please complete each section in full:

Required:

- One letter of recommendation
- A one-page resume
- A .jpg file headshot suitable for publication.

The CEO/Employer and the candidate must sign the application. Completed application must be received by **September 1, 2026**. Applications received after this date will not be eligible for the 2026-2027 class.

Tuition is \$1,850 and due in full upon notification of acceptance into class. This includes shared accommodations, all materials, and most meals for the program.

Applicants will be notified of interview status by **September 7th, 2026**

Your application will not be considered complete or reviewed without receipt of all components

SELECTION CRITERIA



Applicants must represent a Chamber-Partner business in good standing.

- Partner tuition is \$1850
- Prospective Chamber Partner tuition is \$2600

Class members are chosen by a selection committee on their own merits, based on the information and attachments provided in the application and selection committee interviews. Nominees must have full support of the organization they represent.

Attendance at orientation, weekend retreat, and Rockwall County Days is mandatory for graduation. (Note: Should an applicant be unable to attend any of these events, they should wait until another year to apply to participate in the program.)

Attendance at monthly sessions is required for graduation from the program. (Note: one excused absence is allowed.) In reviewing applications, the selection committee looks for potential participants who demonstrate the following:

- Commitment and motivation to serve the Rockwall area in a volunteer capacity.
- Policy-shaping responsibility or position of leadership in employment and/or volunteer organizations resulting in the potential to have significant influence on important issues facing the community.
- Ability to make the time commitment required by the program.
- Previous volunteer experience.

LRC 2027 CONFIDENTIAL APPLICATION

APPLICATION INFORMATION



Full Name: _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female
Preferred Name: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Home Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Mobile Number: _____
Preferred Email Address: _____

Are you a registered voter? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you currently employed in the Rockwall area? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you self-employed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How long have you been a resident of Rockwall County? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you applied for Leadership Rockwall County in the past? If yes, when? ☐ Yes ☐ No

EDUCATION INFORMATION



Highest level of education completed:

- ☐ High School/Diploma ☐ Professional/Technical Certification
☐ Some College ☐ 4-Year Degree ☐ Advanced Degree

Name of Institution(s) Attended:

Did you serve in any leadership/volunteer roles while in school? If yes, please list.

CANDIDATE & EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION



Current Employer: _____

Type of Business: _____

Current Title/Position: _____

How long have you been in your current position? _____

Briefly describe your current roles and responsibilities in this position:

Business Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Business Phone: _____

Business Email: _____

Sponsor: (Maybe your employer organization such as Rotary, Alumni, etc. If no sponsor, write none.)

List previous employment in reverse chronological order:

Employer	Position/Title	Length of Employment

Have you or do you currently serve in any branch of the U.S. military?

If yes, please list the highest rank obtained during your service:

CANDIDATE & EMPLOYEMENT INFORMATION



What do you consider your highest career achievement to date?

How much time do you commit to volunteerism? _____

List any specific community, civic, religious, political, social, athletic, or other area(s) of which you are or have currently been involved in:

Name of Organization	Dates of Membership	Length of Employment

What is the most significant thing you have learned as a result of your community/volunteer involvement?

What types of volunteer activities do you plan to pursue in the future?

If you have not had the time or interest to become actively involved in the past, what conditions have changed that now enable you to seek involvement in the community?

CANDIDATE & EMPLOYEMENT INFORMATION



Briefly describe leadership roles you have held, whether volunteer or professional, and how they have shaped you as a leader today.

What do you feel are the three most significant or pressing issues facing the Rockwall Area today?

1.

2.

3.

What do you feel could be done to solve one of those issues?

What are your hobbies and interests?

Why do you think you should be selected for Leadership Rockwall County?

CANDIDATE & EMPLOYEMENT INFORMATION



What specific skills/knowledge do you hope to gain from your participation in LRC?

Provide a reflective paragraph describing at least two strengths and two weaknesses as it relates to you as a leader?

CEO SPONSORSHIP

I hereby recommend for consideration in the Leadership Rockwall County program. If he/she is selected, I agree to provide adequate release time from regular duties to attend the required sessions and outside projects and activities.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Will your company pay the tuition fee of \$1,850 for this applicant?

*\$2,600 for Prospective Partners.

☐ Yes ☐ No

CANDIDATE & EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION



PERSONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Please list two persons who are knowledgeable about your leadership performance and potential. In addition to the below, please submit one letter of recommendation from a Leadership Rockwall County alumnus.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Email: _____

Attachment – Letter of Recommendation: ☐ Yes ☐ No

COMMITMENT



If accepted into the Leadership Rockwall County program, you and/or your employer/sponsor will be billed for the tuition fee, which covers program costs, including most meals and shared accommodation. Tuition is \$1,850 or \$2,600 for prospective Partners. Applications must be received on or before **September 1, 2026**. Applications received after this date will not be eligible for the Leadership Rockwall County Class of 2027. If selected, full tuition is due by **September 22, 2026**, and is non-refundable. To graduate from Leadership Rockwall County, participants are expected to attend all sessions.

Participants should notify the Class Advisor(s) immediately if unable to attend. Only one excused absence is allowed for a class date. Participants with multiple absences or who are non-participatory in class project activities may be asked to withdraw from the program with no refund and will not graduate.

The Leadership Rockwall County program starts in September 2026 and ends in May 2027. Leadership Rockwall Class meets one full day per month. Sessions are generally held on the second Tuesday of each month from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the duration of the 9-month program. There are 3 meetings outside of these hours and will be included in the final agenda. *In addition to regular class days, outside time will be required to complete and execute the Community Impact Day on May 12, 2027.



Class of 2027 Dates

September 22, 2026	Orientation & Reception (Mandatory) Opening
September 27–28, 2026	Retreat (Mandatory)
October 20, 2026	Monthly Class Day
November 10, 2026	Monthly Class Day
December 8 , 2026	Monthly Class Day
January 12, 2027	Monthly Class Day
February 21-23, 2027	Rockwall County Days - Austin, TX (Mandatory)
March 3 , 2027	Chamber Annual Meeting: Awards Banquet
March 9, 2027	Monthly Class Day
April 13, 2027	Monthly Class Day
May 12, 2027	Community Impact Day!
May 26, 2027	Leadership Rockwall County Class of 2027 Graduation

COMMITMENT



I understand the requirements of the Leadership Rockwall County program and if selected will devote the time and resources necessary to complete the program and become an active member of the Leadership Rockwall County Alumni Cohort upon graduation. I also understand that I will be required to complete alternative assignments on any missed program days or portions of days. Additionally, I acknowledge that if I miss more than one class, I may be asked to withdraw from the program and no portion of the tuition will be refunded.

Each Leadership Rockwall County class must execute Community Impact Day in Rockwall County and is sustainable by that organization. The class is responsible for creating, designing, implementing, and completing their project, which must be approved by the Leadership Rockwall committee of the Rockwall Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. All class members are required to participate in their class project, which may include additional meetings, service hours, and other activities deemed necessary by the class members. Please bear in mind that Participants must be flexible with changes in times due to speaker schedules, program updates, etc.

I understand the above commitments and agree to be bound by them in signing this application.

I understand that the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce, through its Leadership Rockwall County program, selects participants in such a program based on a variety of considerations.

Accordingly, I agree that the Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce shall in no way be liable to me in the event I am not selected for participation in the program. Furthermore, said Chamber shall not be responsible or liable to me for any claim I might make based on my participation in the Leadership Rockwall County program should I be accepted and participate.

I understand the commitment of the Leadership Rockwall County program. If selected, I will devote the required time to the program and pay my tuition in full by the stated date.

Verify Eligibility & Completion of Application

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Letter of recommendation | ☐ One – page resume |
| ☐ Application signed by applicant's CEO or Employer | ☐ One paragraph bio |
| ☐ Headshot Suitable for Publication | ☐ Ability to attend all class days & one additional mandatory day |

Applicant Name (please print): _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Date _____

Application must be received online by September 1, 2026.
You can submit your application online.