

Leadership DeSoto



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Tuition for the 2024-2025 Leadership DeSoto Program is \$625 per participant, and includes meals and transportation during class days, and materials for sessions. Included with this application is the Code of Conduct, with signature required. Application must be completed in full.

Leadership DeSoto is committed to including qualified applicants. Payment can be made by participant, their employer or a combination of both.

Please do not apply if you have been convicted of a felony or any type of sexual assault. Must be over 21 to participate in Leadership DeSoto. All applicants are subject to a background check.

APPLICATION FOR 2024-2025 CLASS MUST BE RETURNED BY FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024

1. Contact Information

Name:	Title:
Company:	Email:
Mailing address:	Date of Birth:
City, State & Zip:	Gender:
Cell phone:	Business phone:

2. Education - list higher education, including short courses or continuing education.

School:	School:
Degree:	Degree:
Graduation Year:	Graduation Year:

3. Employment Information

Primary Occupation / Employer:
Job title:

Briefly describe your greatest responsibility, skills and/or career achievement:

4. Employment History

Company:
Dates:
Job responsibility:

Company:
Dates:
Job responsibility:

5. References

Name:	Title:
Company:	Email:
Phone:	Relationship:
Years known:	

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6. Prior Leadership Program Participation

Have you participated in another Community Leadership program? ___Yes ___No

If yes, please list the program(s) and the year(s) of participation:

Program	Year(s) of Participation

7. Community Involvement – memberships, dates of service, offices held (if any) in organizations including college, professional, civic, church, industry organization or political.

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8. Essay Questions

Keep in mind that your answers are the only tool the Selection Committee has to learn about you, as we do not conduct interviews or accept letters of recommendation. Give yourself enough time to complete the questions thoughtfully. Please answer them thoroughly, but limit your answers to the space provided. Do not attach additional pages.

Community Vision - What assets and strengths do we have in DeSoto County that you are proud of?

Community Vision - Which challenge(s) facing DeSoto County are you most passionate about, and why?

Personal Statement - Why do you want to participate in Leadership DeSoto? Why should you be selected for the next class?

9. Application Agreement

If Accepted:

- I have cleared my calendar on the appropriate dates.
- I understand that any funds generated by the class fundraiser will be distributed by DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce Foundation.
- I will attend or participate in the 3 mandatory events: orientation, graduation ceremony and the class fundraiser which includes committee/planning meetings and ticket/sponsorship sales.
- I will attend a minimum of 7 out of the 9 day-long class days. If I am going to be absent from a class or mandatory event I will communicate in writing to the program director prior to the event.
- I understand that if I miss three class days OR any of the mandatory events, I will no longer be a participant in the program.
- I understand that the \$625 tuition is due by August 16th, and that I am personally responsible for any portion of tuition not paid by my employer.
***If Employer pays for any part of tuition, they will be notified of any class absences.**

By signing this application, I agree to be bound by this commitment if I am selected for Leadership DeSoto.

Signature _____ Date _____

10. EMPLOYER AUTHORIZATION (if applicable)

I approve the participation of _____ in the Leadership DeSoto program. This applicant has the approval and full support of this organization, including the time required to successfully complete the program. I have reviewed and approve of the applicants commitment in section 9 of the application. (For applicants who answer directly to a board of directors, such as an executive director of a non-profit organization, please have the board president or chair sign)

Signature _____ Date _____

Title _____ Organization _____

Email _____ Phone _____

I agree to pay \$_____ of the Leadership DeSoto tuition for the above applicant if accepted. I understand the tuition is nonrefundable and nontransferable.

Signature _____ Date _____

Leadership DeSoto Scholarship Application

Purpose:

The mission of Leadership DeSoto is to develop potential and existing community leaders by providing an experiential education as to the heritage, resources, opportunities and business environment in DeSoto County. The Leadership DeSoto Program has developed a scholarship program for qualified applicants who may not be able to participate due to the cost of the program.

Description:

Scholarship of one-half of the \$625 tuition.

Criteria:

1. A participant in the program or his/her employer must be a member in good standing of the DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce.
2. Application must be signed by the chief executive officer or chief volunteer leader of the applicant's businesses.
3. Applications will be judged on the basis of financial need.

Personal Data:

Name:

Title:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Telephone:

Current amount of budget set aside for professional development:

1. Please make a general statement about why you are applying for this scholarship.
2. Please give a brief description of your financial need for a scholarship.
3. Would you be willing to donate your time to the Chamber by working on a Committee or with the Leadership program? _____ **Yes** _____ **No**

Certification of Applicant:

I agree that (1) the information submitted herein is accurate and correct and (2) if granted a scholarship for Leadership DeSoto and I am unable to participate in the program, I will reimburse the full scholarship amount upon my withdrawal from the program.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Leadership DeSoto



Class XV Schedule

Session times run approximately from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and may start earlier or run later.
Only Two session absences are permitted in order to graduate. Dates subject to change due to conflict with locations, etc.

2024

Wednesday, August 21	Welcome/Orientation & True Colors - MANDATORY
Tuesday, September 18	SimSoc
Wednesday, October 16	Community Service Day – Elect Class Officers
Wednesday, November 20	Ag/Environmental Day
Tuesday, December 18	Government Day

2025

Wednesday, January 15	Economic Development/Tourism Day
Wednesday, February 19	Criminal Justice Day
Wednesday, March 19	Community History & Culture
Wednesday, April 16	Education
Wednesday, May 21	Health
Thursday, May 22	Class Graduation Mandatory – Location - TBD