



Adult Program 2009-2010 Application

INSTRUCTIONS

All applications must be completed **in full** for consideration

- All applications must be completed in a legible manner, preferably typed.
- All applications must be signed by the applicant.
- Two letters of recommendation are required. Please include the sealed letters with your application.
- Completed application and letters of recommendation must be received by the Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce by 5:00 p.m. CST on June 1 for consideration

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must:

- Work or reside in the Kearney area.
- Commit to full participation in the program, including one year in the class and one year planning the following class year's program. **This is a two year commitment.**
- Have a desire to develop and utilize leadership skills.
- Receive a commitment from your employer that allows participation.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The purpose of the Leadership Kearney selection process is to choose a class of individuals to represent the Kearney area. During the first year of the program, members of the class will have many opportunities to become educated on various issues, exchange ideas and enhance their leadership skills. During the second year, members will concentrate on participating in planning committees both as committee chairs and general members while securing donations for the day sessions. The selection process is geared toward choosing participants who represent a cross-section of the community, with class members from a variety of professional, educational, political, social and cultural backgrounds.

Applicants will be selected based on the following criteria:

- A sincere, personal commitment, motivation and interest in improving the Kearney area
- A demonstrated capacity for leadership within an organization through significant action
- A commitment to supporting the continuation of leadership and trustee development in our community
- A willingness and availability to commit the time and energy necessary to complete the program requirements with the full support of your business/organization

PROGRAM COMMITMENT

Selected candidates are expected to fully engage in all Leadership Kearney sessions. Monthly sessions are held from approximately 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, October through May, except for State Government Day, which will be the second Tuesday. An orientation evening will be held in August and an overnight retreat will be held in September at the Leadership Center in Aurora, NE. **Barring emergencies, attendance at all sessions is mandatory!**

Day Session Schedule and Topics: * tentative schedules subject to change

August – Orientation Picnic (evening only)	September – Retreat, Aurora
October – Business & Industry	November – Agriculture, Energy & the Environment
December – Education	January – Health & Human Services
February – State Government Day	March – Culture & Recreation Day
April – Local Government	May – Graduation

In addition to monthly sessions, you will participate in a group project of your class' choosing, which addresses a community need. Participants will discuss the possible project ideas during the retreat and have until may to complete the project.

During the second year, you will be expected to participate in 3-4 planning committees for day sessions for the next year's class, **making your commitment to the program two years**

If selected in this program, do you foresee any reason why you would be unable to complete the full two year program, your participation year and planning year?

Yes ___ No ___

If yes, why? _____

TUITION

In addition to time and dedication, Leadership Kearney requires a financial commitment. Tuition for the program is \$400. Your tuition includes all program materials, eight one-day sessions, one evening orientation, a two-day retreat, meals, required lodging, out-of-town travel and programming costs. Tuition is due in full by August 1 unless other arrangements have been made. **If you are unable to complete the program for any reason, tuition will not be reimbursed.**

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance is available to individuals who may not otherwise be able to participate in Leadership Kearney through a payment plan, in which tuition can be paid over an extended period of time. The final payment will be due on April 1.

The Leadership Kearney Board of Directors also grants a few partial scholarships. Requests for scholarships will be considered on the basis of the applicant's need, as indicated in the space below. Each requestor and his/her sponsor, if applicable, will be asked to contribute at least half of the tuition. Full scholarships are not awarded.

Please indicate your request for financial assistance: Extended Payment Plan ___ Partial Scholarship ___

Please contact Shana Thomas at 308.237.3101 or email stthomas@kearneycoc.org with questions.

PERSONAL DATA

Full Name Preferred Name (for printed materials)

Home address City, State & Zip Code

Home Phone Cell Phone Years in Kearney area

Preferred email address

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Business Name Applicants Job Title

Business Address City, St, & Zip Code

Phone Fax

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (most recent first)

Previous employer Title Dates of Employment

Previous employer Title Dates of Employment

LEADERSHIP INVENTORY

A. Briefly describe your motivation to participate in this program.

B. In addition to networking and meeting other leaders, what are your expectations of the Leadership Kearney program? (include specific experience or skills you hope to gain)

C. What strengths will you bring to the Leadership Kearney program?

D. Define your concept of leadership.

COMMUNITY

A. Please list community, civic, professional, business, religious, social, athletic or other organizations in which you have been a member.

Organization:

Dates:

Positions:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

B. Briefly describe your most significant accomplishment to date in support of your community or organization.

C. If you have not been actively involved, what conditions have changed which now enable you to seek community involvement?

PERSONAL & EMPLOYER COMMITMENT

I understand the purposes of the Leadership Kearney program and, if I am selected, will devote the time and energy necessary to make it a successful experience. I also understand that my submission of this application does not guarantee my acceptance into the program.

Furthermore, I understand that my conduct at all times represents the Leadership Kearney Program. As a role model, I pledge to make positive decisions that would be expected from a leader my community. I understand that inappropriate or illegal conduct outside of Leadership Kearney activities may lead to my dismissal from the program.

I will attend all sessions in their entirety. Even though emergencies do arise, I understand that full participation is expected for all sessions.

Failure to comply with attendance and participation policies will result in dismissal from the program and forfeiture of tuition. Are you and your employer, if applicable, willing to make such a commitment?

Yes ____ No ____ (please initial)

Signature of Applicant

Date

This applicant has the approval of this firm and our full support, which includes the time off required and the ability to reschedule their work to allow them to complete the two year program.

Employer signature

Date

Employer printed name

Title

Email address

Please submit your application to:

Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce
Attn: Leadership Kearney
1007 2nd Avenue
PO Box 607
Kearney, NE 68848

Please contact Shana Thomas at 308.237.3101 or email stthomas@kearneycoc.org with questions.