

# LEADERSHIP AIKEN COUNTY



2024-2025  
Application



## LEADERSHIP AIKEN COUNTY

... a learning experience designed to develop leadership in Aiken County through involvement.

### Program Purpose

Leadership Aiken County is a comprehensive program designed to identify, develop, and motivate new leadership for the Aiken County community. Program objectives are accomplished through a competitive selection process, intensive team building and leadership activities, in addition to exposure to local issues, regional resources, and various County leaders. Participants learn more about the critical issues of the community than many lifelong residents.

Leadership graduates join a growing network of program alumni who have the knowledge and the opportunity to become valued participants in the community and in the governmental activities that will determine the future of Aiken County.

### Program Format

Beginning with a mandatory retreat at Camp Gravatt on September 22-24 (4pm on 9/22 until 4pm on 9/24), the class develops an esprit-de-corps which will provide a common ground for working together on present and future community needs. They also take an active role in developing the program of activities for the months to follow, including five mandatory assignments, class project and committee participation.

For eight months, the group meets for day-long (8am - 5pm) sessions each month to explore issues, problems, and opportunities facing Aiken County today and in the future.

<b>2024-2025 Monthly Session Tentative Schedule:</b>	October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Human Services
	November 12 <sup>th</sup>	Horse and History
	December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Cultural Awareness/Quality of Life
	January 14 <sup>th</sup>	Law Enforcement
	February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Government
	March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Education
	April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Healthcare
	May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Economic Development/ Industry

**NOTE:** Given the importance of attendance, a strict policy will be adhered to for the monthly sessions.

**ADDITIONALLY, attendance at the ENTIRE retreat is REQUIRED.**

### Participant Selection

Applicants are usually sponsored by current leaders in business, industry, the professions, or government; self-employed individuals are also encouraged to apply. Candidates should be residents of Aiken County and/or employed in Aiken County, possess an interest in the community and possess a desire to use the knowledge gained from this program to improve Aiken County. **The class size is limited to 22 participants. All applications must be received by email or mail no later than August 4<sup>th</sup>.** In the acceptance notification, information will be provided about a welcome reception to be held prior to the class retreat. While not required, attendance at this reception is highly encouraged to meet fellow classmates, board members, past participants, and ask any lingering questions prior to the start of the retreat.

### Program Cost

Tuition for Leadership Aiken County is \$900, which is non-refundable. Tuition covers lodging and meals at the retreat, meals for monthly meetings, training materials, some travel expenses, awards, and all administrative costs associated with the program. Limited scholarships (up to 50% of the tuition) are available. Individuals desiring scholarship assistance should submit a letter stating the reasons for scholarship consideration with the application.

### Program Sponsorship

Leadership Aiken County is an independent South Carolina Nonprofit corporation whose Board of Directors has direct responsibility for organizing and running the program. The Leadership Aiken County program draws on volunteers from the community for its development and is coordinated each year by a volunteer selected from past participants.

**LEADERSHIP AIKEN COUNTY APPLICATION (2024-2025)**

*The Leadership Aiken County Board reserves the right to reject incomplete applications.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name for Nametag \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact's Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Personal Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Have you applied to LAC in the past? \_\_\_No \_\_\_Yes (Year \_\_\_\_\_)

**EMPLOYMENT: (Please write legibly; No Resume or Attachments accepted)**

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Date Started \_\_\_\_\_  
Present Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date Assigned \_\_\_\_\_  
Bus. Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Work E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Job Responsibilities \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor's Name & Title \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION:**

	<u>Location</u>	<u>Degree/Year</u>
High School _____	_____	_____
College _____	_____	_____
Other _____	_____	_____

**MAILING PREFERENCE:** \_\_\_ Work \_\_\_ Home

**EMAILING PREFERENCE:** \_\_\_ Work \_\_\_ Home

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

**Each applicant and their supervisor are required to sign the following attendance policy: No more than 1 of the 8 monthly sessions may be missed during the Leadership Aiken County Program. A sign-in sheet will be maintained for each session. If a participant arrives late, leaves early, or misses any portion of the day, it will be recorded as a missed session. Attendance at the entire retreat, participation in the out of class assignments, class committees and class project will be required.**

**CODE OF CONDUCT/SERVICE:**

**As a member of Leadership Aiken County, certain behaviors can bring discredit to Leadership Aiken County and your employer. Any behavior deemed by the Board to bring discredit to Leadership Aiken County or your employer may result in dismissal from the program with no refund.**

**We have read and understand the above stated policies:**

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Applicant Signature

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Applicant's Supervisor Signature

We agree to sponsor this candidate, to provide the necessary participation time, and to pay the \$900 non-refundable tuition (due at the time of acceptance to the program).

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Name & Title of Authorized Signer (**Print**)

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Authorized Signature

For consideration in the 2024-2025 Leadership Aiken County Program, this completed application must be received no later than August 4, 2024 (incomplete applications will not be considered; **please do not remit payment unless notified of acceptance**). Please feel free to submit the application via email.

**Return To:**

Leadership Aiken County  
c/o LJ Jones or Robert Holmes  
P.O. Box 3686  
Aiken, SC 29802  
laccoordinators25@gmail.com

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Please answer the following questions. Use the space provided: do not add any extra pages. Be sure to answer all questions.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

In order of descending importance to you, please list community activities in which you have been involved. These activities can be charitable, religious, civic, business, or government. Describe your specific role and your contributions to the success of that activity.

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### GENERAL:

Write a paragraph describing why you are applying to Leadership Aiken County. What would you hope to gain from your participation? What talents and skills can you provide Aiken County?

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### FOCUS:

Aiken County leaders must take an active role in improving the County. What do you see as the most significant problem in Aiken County? What impact can YOU have to improve the County in this area?

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