



Instructions for Completing the Leadership Jefferson County Application

- ☐ Complete the enclosed application using pen
- ☐ Have employer sign section VII.
- ☐ Sign and date the “Hold Harmless Agreement” and “Attendance Policy”
- ☐ Obtain two letters of recommendation (these should be mailed to: Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, C/O Leadership Selection Committee, 205 Milestone Commons, Suite 2, Dandridge, TN 37725 or emailed to dself@jeffersoncountytennessee.com)

Completed applications will contain the following documents and must be submitted to Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, Attn: **LEADERSHIP Jefferson County, 205 Milestone Commons, Suite 2, Dandridge, TN 37725** by May 30th, 2026.

Items to be completed by Applicant

- ☐ Application
- ☐ Essay (Section V of application)
- ☐ Signed “Hold Harmless Agreement”
- ☐ Signed “Attendance Policy Agreement”

Items to be completed by References

- ☐ Two letters of recommendation



APPLICATION

LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON COUNTY is a program of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce that seeks to develop leaders who will have a positive impact on the growth and development of Jefferson County.

INSTRUCTIONS

Type or print in black ink. Please complete each section fully and limit answers to the space available. Application must be signed by both the applicant and employer/sponsor and returned by: **May 30th, 2026**

SELECTION CRITERIA

Participation in LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON COUNTY is open to people living or working in Jefferson County. Participants will be chosen by the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce President & CEO and the Leadership Specialist. These leaders and potential leaders will be active in business, education, the arts, religion, government, community-based organizations, and will reflect the diversity of the county. Applicants must have full support of the organization or corporation they represent.

I. PERSONAL DATA

Date _____

Name _____
Last First Middle

First Name or Nickname preferred for nametag _____

Age _____ Male _____ Female _____

Home Address _____
Street or P.O. Box City Zip

Business Address _____
Street or P.O. Box City Zip

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email address: _____

Preferred method of contact: Email: _____ Text: _____

If married, spouse's name: _____

Hobbies and Personal Interests

Any Special Food Requirements: _____

Are you a registered voter? Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you reside or work in Jefferson County? Yes ☐ No ☐

II. EDUCATION

(Begin with High School, college(s), advanced degrees and/or specialized training.)

A. Name and location of school	Degree	Major

III. EMPLOYMENT

Present Employer_____

Type of Organization_____

Title or Responsibility_____ Since _____

A. Briefly describe your responsibilities in your employment

B. What do you consider your highest career achievement to date?

C. List of your Business/Professional Affiliations (if any)

(Not including civic organizations, public offices, or political activities)

Name of Group	Positions Held or Assignments	Period of Affiliation
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_____	_____	to _____
_____	_____	to _____
_____	_____	to _____

IV. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A. Include state, community, civic, religious, political, government, social, athletic, or other activities. Do not include business/professional activities. Indicate your major roles.

Organization_____

Assignment/Position_____

Describe
Responsibilities_____

Organization_____

Assignment/Position_____

Describe
Responsibilities_____

Organization_____

Assignment/Position_____

Describe
Responsibilities_____

B. What do you consider your more important accomplishments in one of the above organizations? Why?

V. GENERAL INFORMATION

One of the goals of LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON COUNTY is to build a network of community leaders who can enhance their problem-solving and other leadership abilities through shared perspectives, a greater awareness of issues and organizations, and working together.

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer the following:

A. What do you believe the three most significant challenges facing Jefferson County are?

B. What do you believe needs to be done about one of these issues?

C. What are the three most notable opportunities Jefferson County has to offer?

D. What specific skills/knowledge do you hope to gain from your participation in LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON COUNTY?

VI. COMMITMENT

(To graduate from LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON COUNTY, a participant is expected to attend all sessions)

I understand the purposes of the LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON COUNTY program and if I am selected, I will devote the time and resources necessary to complete the program. Even though emergencies do arise, any participant missing two (2) sessions, other than a family or medical emergency may be asked to withdraw from the program and tuition will not be refunded. Orientation is a mandatory attendance. Two missed sessions will prevent graduation with that class, but the participant will be allowed to make up the session the following year and graduate with that class, as it is available. I understand the above commitments and agree to honor them by signing this application.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

VII. TUITION

If accepted into the LEADERSHIP JEFFERSON COUNTY program, you or your company will be billed for the tuition fee of \$850.00, which covers all program costs, excluding transportation to and from the session site.

EMPLOYER COMMITMENT: This applicant has the approval of this organization and has our full support, which includes the time required to participate in the program.

Company _____

Signature _____ Title _____

VIII. REFERENCES

Letters of recommendation should be written to describe the applicant as a leader in Jefferson County and his/her leadership has made a difference to the local community. References should come from personal, professional and civic contacts. Please see that your letters be mailed directly to the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce C/O Leadership Selection Committee, 205 Milestone Commons, Suite 2, Dandridge, TN 37725.

References

Address & Phone Number

1. _____

2. _____

Application should be mailed to: Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce

Deadline: May 30th, 2026

Leadership Selection Committee
205 Milestone Commons, Suite 2
Dandridge, TN 37725



**ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR
JEFFERSON COUNTY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

Participants agreeing to take part in the Leadership Jefferson County program shall be required to be present at all classes offered to graduate from the program. Class members will be allowed two (2) absences only. Orientation is Mandatory. If a class member misses more than two (2) absences in the year, the class member will not be allowed to graduate. Excuses for absence shall be those of illness, family emergency, or business emergency.

Two (2) missed sessions will prevent graduation with that class, but the participant may be allowed, as space is available, to make up the session the following year and graduate with that class. I understand the above commitments and agree to honor them by signing this application.

This policy is to be signed by each participant as an indication that they understand the terms and agree to abide by this policy.

DEFINITIONS

Business Emergency – one in which a client, the superior of a participant, or an elected officer of his/her organization contacts the chamber with a request for resolving a business need.

Family Emergency – serious illness of spouse, children or parents; death of an immediate family member (grandparents, parents, spouse, children).

Illness – sickness enough to cause the participant to require the services of a physician.

PARTICIPANT'S SIGNATURE

DATE



HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

RELEASE

WHEREAS I, _____, have applied for admission to **Leadership Jefferson County** and may participate in the activities associated therewith, including, but not limited to, the 10 monthly sessions, from August through May, outside activities and the Closing Graduation Ceremony in May.

WHEREAS I am participating in the aforesaid activities solely on my own initiative, risk and responsibility.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the permission extended to me to participate in the aforesaid activities, I do hereby for myself, my heirs, assigns, executors, and administrators, voluntarily release, waive and forever discharge **Leadership Jefferson County**, its officers, agents, employees, the **Leadership Jefferson County** Advisory Committee Trustees; in their individual capacities; and the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce, its officers, agents and employees from any and all claims or causes of action, personal injury, or property damage which result from or arise out of my participation in the aforesaid activities.

Witness: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____