
Leadership Lorain County

High School Student Application for the Class of 2026

Our mission is to develop and advance leaders who support the growth and diversity of our community.

We accomplish this by:

- Identifying and bringing together a diverse cross-section of emerging leaders.
 - Inspiring others to service at home, at work, and in the community.
 - Offering class participants expanded knowledge of existing and emerging local issues.
 - Offering opportunities to explore and strengthen personal leadership skills.
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About the Program & Time Commitment

The Leadership Lorain County Signature Class is a dynamic, 10-month program focused on leadership development and civic engagement. Participants commit to attending monthly full-day sessions, as well as additional events and collaborative projects outside of these scheduled days. Participants who fail to meet the attendance requirements will be asked to withdraw from the program and all paid tuition fees will be forfeited.

Please Hold These Dates on Your Calendar

September 17th, 2025 – Orientation October 16th - 17th, 2025 – Overnight Retreat
May 20th, 2026 – Closing Retreat (AM) & Graduation (PM)

Monthly Sessions (8:30 AM to 5:00 PM)

November 19th, December 17th, January 21st, February 18th, March 18th, April 15th, May 6th.

These sessions are held once a month from September through May, and are **mandatory**, with a maximum of **two absences allowed**. Each session focuses on a different theme and includes leadership development, expert speakers, community tours, and interactive activities.

Design Teams

During the **Overnight Retreat**, class members are divided into **Design Teams**. Each team is responsible for planning and facilitating one of the upcoming session days. This is an opportunity to showcase your knowledge, leverage your connections, and build leadership skills by taking charge of the class experience.

- One hour is reserved during each monthly session for team planning.
 - Additional meetings outside of session days **may be needed**, and each team will determine its own meeting schedule, format (virtual or in-person), and frequency.
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Class Projects

Starting in **January**, class members will select and participate in a **Class Project**, which is a hands-on community initiative. Projects may be pitched by community members, organizations, fellow classmates, or may be a **legacy project** from a previous class.

- Projects have ranged from founding nonprofits (e.g., Blessing House, Big Brothers Big Sisters Lorain County) to organizing beautification efforts like garden installations or painting.
 - **Every participant is required to actively contribute** to at least one class project.
 - Planning and implementation will occur **outside of session days**, and each group will coordinate its own meetings based on availability and preferences.
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By applying, you acknowledge the required **time commitment** and agree to fully participate in all aspects of the program, including events, design teams, and class projects.

Please type or print on your application. All forms are confidential and will be viewed by LLC staff and the selection committee only.

PERSONAL

Name _____
(Last) (First) (M.I.)

Preferred name on badge (Nickname if applicable) _____

Home street address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____

Personal email (optional) _____

Date of Birth _____ Gender _____ Race/Ethnicity _____
(Month/Day/Year)

Emergency Contact _____ Phone number _____
(Name)

Any physical limitations? If so, please describe _____

Dietary restrictions? If so, please describe _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name _____

School Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School Phone _____ Email _____

Principal Name _____ Current Grade: _____

GENERAL

In addition to the community-based curriculum, Leadership Lorain County includes leadership skill development. Please list the three leadership skills you deem most critical to your development as a leader.

How would you expect to use your Leadership Lorain County experience? _____

Who or what led you to apply for the Leadership Lorain County Signature Class of 2025? _____

(continued on next page)

SCHOOL AUTHORIZATION

My school wishes to nominate the candidate listed above for participation in the Leadership Lorain County Signature Class program. I have read and understand the purpose of the Leadership Lorain County program and the expectations of each class member. I/we agree to support the above candidate's successful participation if selected. **If selected, we agree to pay tuition within 30 days of acceptance.** We also understand that, if accepted, our candidate **will attend all sessions including overnights.** We understand that, if our candidate fails to fulfill the obligations stated in this application, they will be asked to withdraw, and any paid tuition will be forfeited.

Note: High School student corporate fees are provided through sponsorships.

School _____

Address _____
(Street) (City/State) (Zip)

Authorized by (Please print and sign name)

Print _____ Signature _____

Position _____ Email _____

ATTENDANCE AGREEMENT

I read and understand the purpose of the Leadership Lorain County program and the expectations of each class member. I agree to support the candidate's successful participation if selected. I will make accommodations during my student's absence from school for the scheduled programs and session days.

Print Principal's Name

Date

Principal's Signature

Phone Number

Print Guidance Councilor's Name

Date

Guidance Councilor's Signature

Phone Number

PARENTAL AGREEMENT

I have read and understand the purpose of the Leadership Lorain County program and the expectations of each class member. I agree to support my child's participation if selected. I also agree to pay the \$200 tuition fee within 30 days of my child's acceptance. I understand that this application process is competitive and that my child may or may not be selected.

Parent Authorization (Please print and sign name) _____

Phone _____ Secondary Phone _____

Email _____

ENROLLMENT AGREEMENT

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

I understand the mission of Leadership Lorain County. I will devote the time necessary to complete the program. This includes attendance at **Orientation, Opening Retreat, Session Days, Closing Retreat, and Graduation**. I also agree to serve on a class service project committee. I understand that, if I am unable to comply with the requirements, I will voluntarily withdraw from the program. I understand that, in the interest of the class experience for all participants, any participant may be removed from the class if, in the opinion of Leadership Lorain County, that participant's conduct is not conducive to the work of the group or there is a failure to meet course requirements. I further understand that tuition is NOT refundable. I also authorize Leadership Lorain County to utilize any photos or videos of me taken during class activities to use as appropriate on social media, their website, and in printed pieces.

Signature _____ Date _____

TUITION FOR LEADERSHIP LORAIN COUNTY

\$1,325 plus application fee \$50:

Tuition for high school students is \$1,325.00.

Please note that all student's corporate portions are supplied through the generosity of our supporters and corporate sponsorships. \$200.00 is to be paid by the household, and the balance of \$ 1,125.00 by the sponsor. Payment plans are available but must be secured with a major credit card. Limited scholarships are available.

Please indicate your preferred method of payment:

_____ Credit Card (scan QR code to visit our Signature Class webpage, scroll to the bottom and select "Make a Payment")



_____ Check _____ Invoice Me

Address for Invoice

**Make checks payable to: Leadership Lorain County
1206 E. Broad Street Elyria, OH 44035**

Call Margarita Padua, President & CEO, with any questions at 440-281-8535.

APPLICATION DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 20TH, via email to programs@leadershiploraincounty.com, mail or in person.

Before submission, please make sure that you enclose the following:

- __ Application
- __ Current Resume
- __ Head Shot Photo emailed
- __ Non-refundable Application Fee \$50
Due upon submission of Application
- HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY**
- __ Students Medical/Parental Release