



Thank you for your interest in Leadership Pickens County!

To begin your application process, below are details outlining the overall program and expectations of LPC.

HISTORY:

Founded in 1991, Leadership Pickens County (LPC) is a nine-month leadership development program devoted to strengthening and guiding our community leaders. Since its inception, over 600 local leaders have graduated from the program and continue their commitment to the growth and development of Pickens County.

PURPOSE:

LPC is a countywide program designed to help develop informed, committed and qualified leaders for Pickens County. By taking an intensive look into the issues affecting our county, LPC prepares and motivates participants to provide quality, dynamic leadership within the area. LPC also provides an opportunity to build long-lasting networks and relationships.

GOALS:

- Develop a greater awareness of community issues by examining major systems or sectors of our community
- Challenge participants to respond to social and economic needs of our community
- Develop a common spirit among participants which will provide common ground for working together on present and future community needs
- Enhance leadership skills and qualities in participants which lead to creative and insightful community solutions
- Ensure broad-based future leadership for our community by engaging leaders with diverse social, civic and professional backgrounds

PROGRAM FORMAT:

LPC begins in late August with a half-day Orientation, which is followed in September with a mandatory two-day retreat focused on team building and leadership development exercises. After the opening retreat, full-day follow-up sessions are held once a month to explore issues and topics important to Pickens County. Session topics include education, economic development, local government, state government, business & infrastructure, healthcare, community services, communications, and healthcare. Sessions offer class members an opportunity to meet community leaders in each of the areas, hear from the experts on various topics and visit sites throughout the county. In addition, the class is required to complete a community service project. The program concludes in May with a class graduation.

PARTICIPATION:

LPC is open to anyone who lives or works in Pickens County. Anyone may apply directly or be nominated by an employer, a local chamber of commerce, or LPC graduate. Applications are available at each chamber office (Clemson, Easley and Pickens) and on the chamber's respective website.

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS:

Expectations of LPC participation include:

- Mandatory attendance at the two-day Orientation Retreat
- No more than two (2) absences from monthly follow-up sessions
- Involvement/engagement in planning and implementing the class project
- Active and respectful dialogue with classmates and speakers related to session topics
- Attendance at the LPC class graduation celebration

Behind this cover letter, please find the Leadership Pickens County application which should be complete in full and submitted before August 06, 2021.



Leadership Pickens County Application

Class XXXI (2021 - 2022) Application Deadline: August 06, 2021

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____

Home Address _____
Street or PO Box City Zip

Employer _____

Business Mailing Address _____

Email _____

Business Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Sponsoring Organization _____
(Typically, this will be your employer. If no sponsor, enter none.)

Are you a resident of Pickens County? Yes No

By participating in Leadership Pickens County (LPC), I agree to participate in all activities planned for the LPC program, including preparation or implementation of the class project or any other activity that relates to the program as a whole. **I understand that even though emergencies do arise, attendance at the class retreat session* is mandatory.** I also understand that any participant **missing more than two (2) follow-up sessions will not be eligible for graduation** from the program. No tuition refunds will be issued due to excessive absences or failure to graduate.

Applicant Signature (acknowledging mandatory orientation attendance & session absences policy) Date

* The LPC session schedule is attached as the last page of this application. Please detach and keep in your records.

CEO/EMPLOYER ENDORSEMENT

I hereby recommend _____ for consideration in Leadership Pickens County. If selected, I understand the attendance requirements for LPC and agree to provide adequate time away from regular job duties to attend the sessions and activities.

Name _____ Title _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Applications must be filled out completely and submitted to the Clemson, Easley or Pickens Chamber of Commerce **no later than August 06, 2021**. Tuition is \$800 and must be paid in full prior to the Orientation session (August 19, 2021). In addition, partial scholarship assistance is available. Please see Page 4 for tuition details and/or to apply for scholarship assistance.

Completed application can be emailed to chopkins@easleychamber.org or mailed to Greater Easley Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 241, Easley SC 29641.

PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION *(If more space is needed, please use back of page.)*

Employer _____

Position/Title _____

How long have you been employed with your current employer? _____

List any special honors, awards or certifications earned in your professional career.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT *(If more space is needed, please use back of page.)*

List up to five community, civic, professional, social or other organizations with which you are or have been a member or volunteer.

	Name of Organization	Role Served	Dates of Involvement
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____

What is the most significant or rewarding thing you have learned as the result of your community/volunteer involvement? And how has it impacted your personal and/or professional life?

If invited to participate in Leadership Pickens County, what would your community involvement or professional experience bring to the Leadership Pickens County program?

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Have you participated in other leadership development programs? Yes No
If yes, what program(s)? _____

How long have you lived and/or worked in Pickens County? _____

In your opinion, what are the biggest challenges and/or opportunities for Pickens County?

If invited to participate in Leadership Pickens County, what type of leadership development information or activities would you like included in the program to enhance your current skills?

If invited to participate in Leadership Pickens County, what do you hope to gain from the overall experience?

TUITION INFORMATION

Tuition for Leadership Pickens County is \$800 which covers all materials, food, transportation and any other related program costs. **Tuition must be paid in full no later than the Orientation date (August 19, 2021).**

Please make check payable to Leadership Pickens County and mail payment to:

Greater Easley Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 241
Easley, SC 29641

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Currently, there are three sponsoring chambers for Leadership Pickens County (Clemson Area Chamber, Greater Easley, and Greater Pickens). Each chamber awards one partial scholarship of \$400 (half of the full tuition amount) for the LPC program. There are no full scholarships available. Scholarships will be awarded based on financial need. Applications for scholarship assistance are considered separately and will not affect class selection. **Deadline to apply for scholarship assistance is July 30, 2021.**

Do you wish to be considered for scholarship assistance? Yes No

From which chamber of commerce is your company requesting a scholarship?

Clemson Easley Pickens

Please explain the circumstances that require you or your employer to seek scholarship assistance.
(If more space is needed, please use back of page.)

QUESTIONS

For any questions regarding the Leadership Pickens County program, please contact your chamber office.

Clemson Area Chamber	864-654-1200
Greater Easley Chamber	864-859-2693
Greater Pickens Chamber	864-878-3258



2021 – 2022 (Class XXXI) Session Dates & Topics

Thursday, August 19, 2021	LPC Class Orientation <i>5 Point Church</i>
September 13-14, 2021	Class Retreat <i>Clemson University Outdoor Lab</i> ** <i>Mandatory for class participation</i> **
Tuesday, October 5, 2021	Community Service Session
Tuesday, November 2, 2021	Healthcare Session
Tuesday, December 7, 2021	Local Government Session
Tuesday, January 11, 2022	Communications Session
Tuesday, February 1, 2022	Economic Development Session
March (TBD)	State Government Session
Tuesday, April 5, 2022	Education Session
Tuesday, May 3, 2022	Recreation and Tourism Session
Thursday, May 19, 2022	Graduation Dinner & Celebration (Evening Event)

CLASS PROJECT

As part of the Leadership Pickens County experience, each class is required to complete a community service project, which must be implemented no later than your final follow-up session date in early May. The class will seat a small committee that will meet with the LPC Board of Regents to present an overview of your proposed class project. Traditionally, this presentation takes place no later than early December. While the project committee will coordinate the process to research, identify, and organize the project, it is expected that ALL class members will be involved with identifying the project, as well as the implementing the project.

During some of the full-day sessions, the agenda will allow for discussion related to your class project. However, in order to successfully develop and implement your class project, you will most likely need to schedule meetings outside the time frame of the scheduled follow-up sessions. The scope and timeline of the class project will determine the number and frequency of these extra meetings. The class members will collectively decide how to plan and manage these meetings.