

# LEADERSHIP IBERIA

## THE MISSION

Leadership Iberia is a community leadership program sponsored by the Greater Iberia Chamber of Commerce. Its mission is to build a strong sense of community trusteeship by creating and empowering a broad network of well-informed leaders, whose strengthened commitment to community involvement will affect positive change in the Iberia Parish area.

## THE PARTICIPANTS

Participants will be selected each year based on a competitive application process. An emphasis is placed on selecting participants from a cross-section of the community based on diversity of applicants including profession and volunteer experience.

## REQUIREMENTS

Attendance at the opening retreat and closing retreat are mandatory. In addition to monthly day-long sessions, participants will be encouraged to attend certain out-of-classroom sessions to be announced.

## PROGRAM FORMAT

The program will begin with a class orientation shortly after participants are selected, followed by an opening retreat in February. The monthly day-long sessions, special projects and field trips will be held March through October with a closing retreat and graduation in November/December. These sessions will be focused on activities and hands-on experience related to: leadership skills, education, government, law enforcement and judicial system, economic development, quality of life, health care and social services.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Leadership Iberia seeks individuals who:

- Are most qualified to utilize their leadership skills through community service for the long-term benefit of the community.
- Possess a personal or occupational commitment to remain in the Iberia Parish area for the immediate future and maintain a continued commitment to the Leadership Iberia program.
- Demonstrate their leadership qualities through career achievement or participation in community activities, both past and present.
- Acquire full support from their sponsoring organization/business and willingness to commit the time and energy necessary to complete the program.
- Are residents and/or employed in Iberia Parish.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

- Applicants are selected on their own merit from written applications submitted to the Leadership Iberia Selection Committee.
- Application forms are available almost year round and may be submitted any time with a \$25.00 non-refundable application fee.
- A \$100 deposit is due with application, relative to details in the application. This deposit refundable should the applicant not be selected to the current class. This \$100 fee is to be paid by the applicant, regardless of the sponsoring organization.
- Class selection is completed in January at which time all applicants are notified. Unsuccessful candidates are encouraged to re-apply in subsequent years.

## TUITION

Tuition for Leadership Iberia is \$750. The \$100 deposit is to be paid by the applicant. A sponsoring organization or business may assume the cost of the remainder of the tuition. Partial scholarships may be available upon request.

Confidential Application  
**Leadership Iberia Class XXVII**  
2025

**PERSONAL DATA**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name \_\_\_\_\_ Race \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Years working/living in Iberia Parish \_\_\_\_\_ Children: Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT**

Present Title \_\_\_\_\_ Since \_\_\_\_\_

Present Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Date Hired \_\_\_\_\_

OR Self-Employed Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Type of Business \_\_\_\_\_

*Briefly describe your responsibilities in your employment:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Most recent previous employment in reverse chronological order:*

Employer	Title of Responsibility	From	To
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

*With regard to your work, what do you consider your highest responsibility, skill or career achievement so far?*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## EDUCATION

Briefly summarize your educational background. List degrees/certificates received, field of study, vocational training programs, professional institutes, etc.:

---

---

## ORGANIZATION/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Major volunteer role at this time:

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Describe responsibilities:

---

---

Please list the business, professional or job-related organizations of which you have been a member and that have been of significance to you:

Organization	From	To	Responsibility/Position Held
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

List civic, religious, professional, and non-business affiliated organizations in which you are actively engaged:

---

---

---

What do you consider your most important accomplishment in one of the above organizations? Why? What role did you play?

---

---

---

## COMMUNITY

*In your judgement, what are the three most pressing challenges facing Iberia Parish today? Explain your choices and give any recommendations you may have for approaching and resolving these challenges:*

---

---

---

---

---

*What is your hope for Iberia Parish?*

---

---

*Who do you recognize or look to as a leader? What qualities do they have that you admire and emulate?*

---

---

*Why should you be selected to be a part of Leadership Iberia?*

---

---

## GENERAL INFORMATION

*What specific skills/knowledge do you hope to gain from your participation in Leadership Iberia?*

---

---

---

---

---

---

## RECOMMENDATION

*Personal Recommendation*

Please list at least one person other than the sponsor who is knowledgeable about your leadership performance and potential. Submit one letter of recommendation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**UNDERSTANDING OF COMMITMENT**

To graduate from Leadership Iberia, a participant is expected to attend all of the sessions.

- Orientation – January (Date to be Determined, 4PM-6:30PM)
- Opening Retreat, February, 2025 TBA. Attendance is MANDATORY for this session. Overnight session.**
- One full week-day per month, March 2025 – November 2025 No more than two absences are allowed during this segment of the schedule. Strictly enforced.**
- Expected volunteerism for Chamber’s World Championship Gumbo Cook Off in October (second weekend in October)
- Closing Retreat, **Attendance is MANDATORY for this session. (Date will be available prior to final commitments. This retreat is one week-day.)**
- Graduation November/December

Will you be able to fulfill this time commitment?    Yes ( )                      No ( )

Do you have the support of your employer for the time involved?    Yes ( )    No ( )

Total tuition for each participant is \$750.  
\$100 personal check is required with application form. *Refundable if not selected.* (Sponsoring organization/company often pays the balance due of \$650. Applicant is responsible for securing full tuition.)

Will you be able to fulfill this financial commitment?    Yes ( )    No ( )

A limited number of partial scholarships are available. If accepted in the **Leadership Iberia** Program, will you find it necessary to seek scholarship assistance toward the tuition fee? *Additional confidential financial information may be required. (Credit cards are accepted. Payment plans are available.)*

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I understand and acknowledge the purpose and commitment of the Leadership Iberia Program; and if I am selected as a participant, I will devote the required time.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete each section fully, limiting answers to space available. Be sure to include the following:

- ( ) \$25 Application Fee (non-refundable)
- ( ) One letter of recommendation
- ( ) Employer Commitment Form
- ( ) A \$100 personal check.

Checks are not deposited until selections and commitments are confirmed in January.

### *Other information:*

- Tuition invoices will be sent out to Sponsors after individuals have been notified of class acceptance in January 2025.
- Make checks out to **Leadership Iberia**, credit cards are accepted. Payment plans are available. You may also call in to pay appropriate payment.
- **Application packets must be signed by sponsor and candidate and returned *no later than 5pm; January 10, 2025***
- The Greater Iberia Chamber of Commerce is located in the heart of Downtown, across from Bouligny Plaza and next to Victor's Cafeteria.

Emailed to: [kelly@iberiachamber.org](mailto:kelly@iberiachamber.org)

Faxed to: 337-367-7405

Greater Iberia Chamber of Commerce  
Leadership Iberia

**Employer Commitment Form**

I understand that \_\_\_\_\_ is applying for the Leadership Iberia Class of 2025 and will be attending an orientation scheduled for an afternoon in late January 2025, a two-day (overnight) opening retreat scheduled for February 2025, TBA (mandatory) and a two-day (overnight) trip to Baton Rouge scheduled for late April/May. Additionally, Leadership Classes are scheduled for a full business day per month from March 2025 through November 2025 with an extended luncheon graduation ceremony in late November/early December.

Applicants will not graduate from the program if they miss more than two of the regular class days or either of the mandatory retreats – February/November.

Meetings will be held in-person, virtually or a combination of both. Leadership Iberia reserves the right to make changes to the schedule due to public health issue mandates or should unresolvable scheduling conflicts occur.

I fully support \_\_\_\_\_'s participation in Leadership Iberia 2025, with regard to:

- ( ) Time off allowed for program
- ( ) Tuition support

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_