



LEADERSHIP
GAINESVILLE

A Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce Program



LEADERSHIP GAINESVILLE

Leadership Gainesville (LG) is a 10-month community leadership program designed to develop the skills leaders need to excel. The program includes a combination of in-depth issue seminars and skills development designed to enhance self-awareness of leadership approaches.

The program provides community immersion experiences and advanced skill development which enable participants to explore critical issues in Gainesville's business environment.

ESTEEMED HISTORY OF LEADERSHIP GAINESVILLE

In the early 1970's, the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce became aware of the need to create a forum for leaders from both the community and the University of Florida to discuss issues of importance to Gainesville and the State of Florida.

In 1972, Carol Gray, the Executive Vice President for the Chamber, discussed the need for a Leadership Gainesville program with then President, Finley Cannon, Jr., and several past presidents. At the time, there were very few leadership programs in the South and none were available in the State of Florida. Leadership Gainesville would be the first program in the state.

In 1974, Canon and Gray hired a consultant, Gerald Horton, who was instrumental in creating the Leadership Atlanta Program, to coordinate the Leadership Gainesville Program. Brochures and applications were sent to all Chamber members and selected individuals at the University of Florida. The first person to enroll was Mel Fried: the second was Finley Cannon. Within a week, the inaugural Leadership Gainesville class was full.

Today, Leadership Gainesville is the single most unique opportunity for emerging and existing leaders to build, collaborate, and steward a vibrant, interconnected community in Gainesville and the surrounding area. The program identifies, educates and develops leadership skills in approximately 50 individuals each year following a competitive application process.

The goals are simple... to **EXPAND** leadership potential ... to **IMPROVE** communications between present and future leaders... to **INSPIRE** new leaders to tackle tough community challenges in an informed and responsible manner.

If you want a deeper connection to the community and believe leadership is an investment worth making in your career and civic stewardship, Leadership Gainesville is for you!

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Please complete each section in full.
- Type or print legibly. (It is critical that the selection committee be able to read your application)
- Limit answers to available space.
- One letter of recommendation will be accepted. No other attachments will be considered. (No resumes)
- Application must be signed by CEO/Employer and candidate.
- Completed Application and \$25 application fee must be submitted by **July 2, 2021**. Applications received after this date will not be eligible for the current class.
- Tuition is \$1,995 and **due in-full by July 30, 2021**.
- Submissions can be sent via email to joe@gainesvillechamber.com or mailed to: **Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce
300 East University Avenue, Suite 100
Gainesville, FL 32601**
- Accepted applicants will be notified by July 9.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Application to LG is open to persons living within the Greater Gainesville region.
- Applicants must represent a Chamber-member business.
- Class size will not exceed 60 members.
- Class members are chosen by a selection committee on their own merit based upon the information completed on the application.
- Nominees must have the full support of the organization they represent.
- Attendance at monthly sessions is mandatory.
- In reviewing applications, the selection committee looks for potential participants who demonstrate the following:
 - Commitment and motivation to serve Gainesville and the region in a volunteer capacity.
 - Policy shaping responsibility or position of leadership in employment and/or volunteer organizations resulting in the potential to have significant influence on important issues facing the community.
 - Ability to make the time commitment required by the program.
 - Previous volunteer experience.

— LG CONFIDENTIAL APPLICATION —

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Preferred Name: _____ Male Female

Date of Birth: _____ Race/Ethnicity (optional): _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Mobile Number: _____

Preferred Email Address: _____

Are you a registered voter: Yes No

Are you currently employed in the Greater Gainesville region? Yes No

Are you self-employed? Yes No

How long have you been a resident of Greater Gainesville? _____

Have you applied for Leadership Gainesville in the past? If yes, when? _____

EDUCATION INFORMATION

Highest level of education completed:

High School/Diploma

Professional/Technical Certification

Some College

4-Year Degree

Advanced Degree

Name of Institution(s) Attended:

Did you serve in any leadership-volunteer roles while in school? If yes, please list.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Current Employer: _____

Type of Business: _____ Current Title/Position: _____

How long have you been in your current position? _____

Briefly describe your current roles and responsibilities in this position: _____

Business Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Business Phone: _____ Business Email: _____

Sponsor (May be your employer or an organization such as Rotary, Junior League, etc. If no sponsor, write none.)

List previous employment in reverse chronological order:

EMPLOYER	POSITION/TITLE	LENGTH OF EMPLOYMENT

Have you or do you currently serve in any branch of the U.S. military? Yes No

If yes, please list the highest rank obtained during your service: _____

What do you consider your highest career achievement to date? _____

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

How much time do you commit to volunteerism? _____

List any significant community, civic, religious, political, social, athletic or other area(s) of which you are or have currently been involved in:

NAME OF ORGANIZATION	DATES OF MEMBERSHIP	RESPONSIBILITY

What is the most significant thing you have learned as a result of your community/volunteer involvement? _____

What types of volunteer activities do you plan to pursue in the future? _____

If you have not had the time or interest to become actively involved in the past, what conditions have changed that now enable you to seek involvement in the community?

GENERAL INFORMATION

Briefly describe leadership roles you have held, whether volunteer or professional, and how they have shaped you as a leader today. _____

What do you feel are the three most significant issues facing the Greater Gainesville region today?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What do you feel could be done to solve one of those issues? _____

What are your hobbies and interests? _____

Why do you think you should be selected for Leadership Gainesville? _____

What specific skills/knowledge do you hope to gain from your participation in LG?

Provide a reflective paragraph describing at least two strengths and two weaknesses as it relates to you as a leader. _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

CEO/EMPLOYER SPONSORSHIP

I hereby recommend _____ for consideration in the Leadership Gainesville program. If he/she is selected, I agree to provide adequate release time from regular duties to attend the required sessions and activities.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Will your company pay the tuition fee of \$1,995 for this applicant? Yes No

PERSONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Please list two persons who are knowledgeable about your leadership performance and potential. You may submit ONE letter of recommendation from one of the persons listed below.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Email: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Email: _____

TUITION & SCHOLARSHIPS

If accepted into the Leadership Gainesville program, you and/or your employer/sponsor will be billed for the tuition fee, which covers all program costs including meals. Tuition is \$1,995. **An application fee of \$25 is required and is non-refundable.** Applications must be received on or before **July 2, 2021**. Applications received after this date will not be eligible for this LG Class. If selected, full tuition is due by **July 30, 2021** and is non-refundable.

Limited scholarship opportunities are available through the Leadership Gainesville Alumni Association for accepted applicants whose tuition is not sponsored. Please contact the Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce at 352-334-7100 if you are in need of scholarship funds.

COMMITMENT

To graduate from Leadership Gainesville, participants are expected to attend all sessions. Participants should notify the Chamber immediately if unable to attend. Participants with multiple absences may be asked to withdraw from the program with no refund.

The LG program starts in August and ends in May. LG meets one full day per month, sessions are generally held on the second Thursday of each month from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the duration of the 10-month program.

Upon acceptance, attendees will receive a schedule of dates for each session of the 10-month program. If an applicant is unable to commit to the dates for the session, the applicant's admission will be revoked.

I understand the requirements of the Leadership Gainesville program and if selected will devote the time and resources necessary to complete the program and become an active member of the Leadership Gainesville Alumni Association and one other community organization upon graduation. I also understand that I will be required to complete alternative assignments for any missed program days or portion of days. Additionally, I acknowledge that if I miss two sessions, I may be asked to withdraw from the program and no portion of the tuition will be refunded.

I understand the above commitments and agree to be bound by them in signing this application.

I understand that the Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce, through its Leadership Gainesville program, selects participants in such program based on a variety of considerations. Accordingly, I agree that the Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce shall in no way be liable to me in the event I am not selected for participation in the program. Furthermore, said Chamber shall not be responsible or liable to me for any claim I might make based on my participation in the Leadership Gainesville program should I be accepted and participate.

I understand the commitment of the Leadership Gainesville program. If selected, I will devote the required time to the program and pay my tuition in full by the stated date.

Applicant Name (please print): _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Application and application fee must be
submitted by **July 2 and July 30.**

You can submit your application online, via mail or email

Greater Gainesville Chamber of Commerce
300 E. University Ave., Suite 100
Gainesville, FL 32601

For more information, please contact:

JOE JOHNSON

LG Program Manager

Gainesville Chamber of Commerce

Joe@gainesvillechamber.com

352-334-7120