



Today's learner. Tomorrow's leader.

Mission and Purpose

Mission: To develop current and future leadership for Meridian and Lauderdale County by providing structured opportunities for interaction with other business professionals, community leaders, and elected officials, and by providing tools for leadership development, an understanding of different leadership styles and a sense of community responsibility.

Purpose: To provide existing and emerging leaders with opportunities to enhance their civic knowledge and civic network. Leadership Lauderdale will help participants better understand how our community works, build relationships with the area's current and future leaders and become inspired to focus talents in a way that will best serve the community. Participants are provided basic tools to help them develop the leadership skills necessary to assume leadership roles and are exposed to opportunities for involvement in the community.

Program Overview

Opening Retreat: The overnight Opening Retreat will be held at a nearby conference facility, Wednesday - Thursday, September 13-14, 2017. During this mandatory overnight retreat, class members will participate in a number of relationship and team-building activities designed to demonstrate the dynamics of effective leadership. Team-building activities will expand on important themes such as communication, trust, intergenerational management, consensus-building and empowerment.

Monthly Learning Sessions: Eight, one-day Monthly Learning Sessions are held each second Wednesday, October to May (with the exception of March when the session will be held the first Wednesday), from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. During each session, local business and community leaders will share their knowledge through lively discussions and activities that highlight real situations, needs and opportunities within the area. In addition, a study of *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* provides introspection and development of leadership potential. Leadership Lauderdale also provides first-hand experience through "Go-See-Hear" tours of local industries, historic sites, entertainment and educational facilities, local infrastructure, workforce development agencies and many other businesses and community resources.

Community Service Project: The Community Service Project is an integral part of the Leadership Lauderdale experience. Participants work with fellow classmates to implement a community enhancing project. The Community Service project provides class members the opportunity to turn concepts into workable projects and solutions. **Projects will be completed outside of the Monthly Learning Sessions.**

Attendance: Monthly Learning Sessions are held every second Wednesday of the month, October-May (with the exception of March when the session will be held the first Wednesday). **Participants may not have more than one unexcused absence in order to graduate. Attendance at the overnight retreat on September 13-14, 2017, is mandatory.** Prior notice of a planned absence is required. Excessive (more than 2 days) excused absences may also result in dismissal from the program. Graduation will be held on Tuesday, June 12, 2018. In addition, participants will be required to take part in a Community Service Project outside of the Monthly Learning Sessions. Participants with more than one unexcused absence will not be eligible for graduation. Scholarship recipients dismissed from the program due to absences will be required to repay the \$500 Community Scholarship.

Selection Criteria and Application Review: The selection criteria are civic involvement, leadership potential, diversity of perspective and commitment to the leadership program and the community. Applicant must be a resident or employee in Lauderdale County. A commitment from the employer to allow time for the employee to participate is required. No more than two employees per company or organization may participate in the same class. The number of participants will be limited in order to encourage maximum personal participation. If you need assistance with the application or have questions, call Casey Holladay at 601-693-1306.

Tuition: Tuition for the Leadership Lauderdale program is \$500.

Scholarship/Financial Assistance: Partial and full scholarship funds are available, based on need, and will be considered only after candidate selection is made. Applicants must indicate request for financial assistance on their application.

Application and Nomination Form must be returned to the EMBDC before Friday, July 28, 2017. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the program.

Application Checklist

- Completed Application
 - Signed Applicant Commitment
 - Signed Employer Commitment
 - Completed Financial Commitment and/or Scholarship Request

Application is available for download at www.embdc.org

- Completed Nomination Form
 - Completed Financial Commitment and/or Scholarship Request

Nomination form is available for download at www.embdc.org

Leadership Lauderdale Schedule

2017

September 13-14: Overnight Retreat / October 11: Education
November 8: Quality of Life/Social / December 13: Healthcare

2018

January 10: Civic/Government / February 14: Economic Development Game
March 7: Military / April 11: Industry
May 9: Community Service Project Presentation Day / June 12: Graduation

MERIDIAN

East Mississippi Business
Development Corporation

1901 Front Street, Suite A

P.O. Box 790

Meridian, Mississippi 39302

www.embdc.org

P 601.693.1306 F 601.693.5638



LEADERSHIP lauderdale

- Application -
Due by July 28, 2017

Name _____
Last First Middle

Name you prefer to be called _____ Date of birth _____

Preferred mailing address _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cellphone _____

E-mail address _____ Race _____

Employment

Present employer _____ Date began _____

Employer address _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Present title or responsibility _____ Since (date) _____

Community Involvement

List key community, civic, professional, religious, business, social or other organizations of which you have been a member in the last 5 years:

Describe up to three opportunities that Lauderdale County has to offer:

Describe up to three things that cause you the greatest concern about Lauderdale County:

How would you work towards a solution to these concerns:

Education and Training

Include High School(s), College(s), Graduate School(s), Business or Trade School(s), Military Training or other specialized training:

If additional space is needed, please attach an additional sheet. Nomination form must be submitted with application.

Employer Commitment

If selected, this applicant has the full approval of this organization and the applicant has our full support, which includes the time required to participate in the program, and (if agreed), includes paying his or her tuition, prior to the retreat.

We also understand that not all applicants can be accepted for this program in any given year and that all applications are held in confidentiality.

Organization _____

Signature _____

Title _____ Date _____

Applicant Commitment (Initial Each)

- _____ I wish to participant in Leadership Lauderdale.
- _____ I have the full support of my employer for the time required to participate.
- _____ I understand attendance is mandatory for the opening retreat and the closing session.
- _____ I understand I am expected to attend monthly full-day learning sessions.
- _____ I understand I will be required to commit to community service activities and projects during the course of this program that may require work outside of class time.
- _____ I understand that excessive unexcused absences means being removed from the program.
- _____ I understand that the cost of this program is approximately \$500 per participant, and nonrefundable. If I withdraw or am removed from the program due to my failure to participate, I agree to reimburse the program any scholarship received, if requested to do so.
- _____ I understand that an evaluation of my participation will be provided to my supervisor listed above, if my tuition is paid by my employer.

Signature

Return application by July 28, 2017 to:

**EMBDC
P.O. Box 790
Meridian, MS 39302**

**or
cholladay@embdc.org**





2017-2018 Leadership Lauderdale Nomination Form

(to be completed by employer or sponsor)

Instructions: Please complete all sections to the best of your knowledge. To demonstrate the qualifications of your nominee, provide as much information and examples as possible. **The nomination form is due July 28, 2017.** If additional space is needed, please attach an additional sheet. A letter of recommendation is not required.

Nominee _____ Company _____

Job Title _____ Email _____

How does the nominee exemplify professionalism and dedication to Meridian/Lauderdale County performing beyond the call of duty to advocate for and improve the community?

Does the nominee serve as a positive role model for co-workers and the community? How?

Does the nominee demonstrate leadership abilities and/or leadership potential?

Additional Comments:

Nominator _____ Signature _____

Title _____ Email _____

- Tuition fee will be paid by Applicant
- Tuition fee will be paid by _____ (Employer or Sponsor)
- Scholarship required for participation (a limited number of scholarships are available and are awarded based on need)

The nomination form can be emailed to cholladay@embdc.org or sent to Casey Holladay c/o EMBDC, P.O. Box 790, Meridian, MS 39302. **Nomination forms are due no later than Friday, July 28, 2017.**

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