Our Purpose: To develop and grow leadership characteristics in our youth through interaction with our community leaders, working through 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, and providing volunteer opportunities in our community. By bringing together a diverse group of high school juniors, our goal is to help develop an understanding of their personal leadership style and community responsibility.

Application Details:
1. Leadership Lauderdale Youth is open to all high school juniors who attend school or reside in Lauderdale County.
2. Students will be chosen for the program based on the application, reference letters, panel interview, and principal and parents/guardians approval. All applicants must have a 2.5 GPA out of a possible 4.0 GPA for the previous school year. We ask that all participants complete their application themselves.
3. The number of participants will be limited to 30 in order to encourage maximum personal participation.
4. The cost of the program is $100 per participant. Limited scholarships are available upon request.

Retreat: An overnight event in which the group will participate in team-building activities and study The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens. The retreat is mandatory for all selected participants.

Transportation: Transportation to and from the meeting location will be the responsibility of the individual student. Once at the meeting location, transportation will be provided for safety reasons and everyone will travel together. Parental assistance is needed to transport students each month.

Class Shirt: The Leadership Lauderdale Youth t-shirt will be worn at every meeting.

Community Service: The class will participate in group community service projects outside of the monthly meetings. Participation is required.

Monthly Meeting: Each session will be held on a school day from 8:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Participation in the monthly sessions is required. If absent, participant or parent/guardian must contact Casey Holladay at the EMBDC. We will contact the school to report absences. Excessive absences could mean being dismissed from the program.
## Schedule of Events and Topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 6 (Friday)</td>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 9 - 13</td>
<td>Panel Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 25 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Notification of Selection</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 8 (Tuesday)</td>
<td>Parent/Guardian and Participants Meeting (6:00 p.m.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 14-15 (Mon-Tues)</td>
<td>Retreat – Pine Lake Camp, Meridian, MS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Introduction to “7 Habits” Habit 1 and Habit 7; Team-building activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 12 (Tuesday)</td>
<td>Habit 2 – Education / Workforce Development – Business &amp; Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 3 (Tuesday)</td>
<td>Habit 3 - Military</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 14 (Tuesday)</td>
<td>Habit 4 - Crime and Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 11 (Tuesday)</td>
<td>Habit 5 – Citizenship (Government &amp; Volunteerism)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 17 (Tuesday)</td>
<td>Habit 6 – Health Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Banquet/Award Presentation – 6:00 p.m.</td>
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Return the application to the EMBDC Office (not your school office) no later than September 6, 2019. Applications can be delivered via mail, email, or dropped off to the address below.

Casey Holladay  
East Mississippi Business Development Corporation  
200 22nd Avenue  
Meridian, MS 39301  
Phone: 601-693-1306  
cholladay@embdc.org

**Checklist**  
Application, (2) Reference Letters, Signed Commitment Page
CONFIDENTIAL APPLICATION FORM

This application may be downloaded at [www.embdc.org](http://www.embdc.org). Deadline to submit application is September 6, 2019. Applications must be completed by the student requesting to participate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME: (Last)</th>
<th>(First)</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOME ADDRESS</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
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<tr>
<th>CELL PHONE NUMBER</th>
<th>E-MAIL ADDRESS</th>
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<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>BIRTHDATE</th>
<th>SEX</th>
<th>RACE</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARENTS/GUARDIANS NAMES</th>
<th>PHONE NUMBER</th>
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<tr>
<th>PARENT E-MAIL ADDRESS</th>
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<tr>
<th>T-SHIRT SIZE</th>
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1. Describe your primary strengths and talents:

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

2. I would like to improve myself in the following areas:

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

3. I participate in the following school and community activities:

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

4. List any special honors or awards you have received since the seventh grade:

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
5. List work and volunteer experience:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

6. Describe three benefits of Lauderdale County:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

7. From your viewpoint as a teenager, describe three opportunities for improvement in Lauderdale County:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

8. List additional information that would be helpful in our selection process:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

9. List the two references who will be writing letters of recommendation on your behalf. Please, no family members. Enclose their letters with your application.

Name:______________________________________Phone:___________________________

Name:______________________________________Phone:___________________________
PRINCIPAL COMMITMENT
This applicant has our full support and permission, including the time required to participate in this program.

________________________________
________________________________
SCHOOL                          PHONE

PRINCIPAL’S SIGNATURE           DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMITMENT
My child has my full support and permission, including the time required to participate in the program.

________________________________
________________________________
PARENT/GUARDIAN’S SIGNATURE      DATE

DAYTIME PHONE

APPLICANT COMMITMENT AND PLEDGE.
I wish to participate in the Leadership Lauderdale Youth Program. I have reviewed the dates and I am willing to make the commitment of my time and talents to Leadership Lauderdale Youth.

________________________________
________________________________
APPLICANT’S SIGNATURE            DATE