



Develop • Connect • Impact

PARTICIPATE IN THE

B.E.S.T. LEADERSHIP PROGRAM!

BECOME A LEADER IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND!

The B.E.S.T. Leadership Program was created in 2004 as a means to cultivate community and business leaders in Bastrop County. The program identifies and encourages current and potential leaders by acquainting them with local needs and building an understanding of how individual talents can work together to build a more successful community. Participants are given unique insights into city, county, and state level organizations which allow them to build a more in-depth perspective of their own community's opportunities and challenges. Participants also receive training in the art of leadership itself, strengthening their ability to make a positive impact at home, work, and in the public forum. Participation is limited, so don't wait.

**Submit your application to the
B.E.S.T. Leadership Program today!**



B. E.S.T. Leadership

Bastrop*Elgin*Smithville*Texas

PURPOSE

The purpose of B.E.S.T. LEADERSHIP is to develop motivated, skilled and effective leaders who will contribute to the future growth and direction of Bastrop county.

OBJECTIVES

- Identify and select highly motivated new and emerging leaders to participate in a 9 month program.
- Motivate class participants to assume the responsibilities and opportunities inherent in the leadership program.
- Provide information to class participants on the key organizational structure within the County.
- Acquaint class participants with strengths, challenges, problems and needs of the County.

METHODS

- The 9 month program beginning in September and ending in May with no session in December.
- Sessions will be held the 3rd Thursday of each month.
- The first session is mandatory to continue in the class. More than one absence in the remaining 7 sessions results in ineligibility to graduate from the B.E.S.T. Leadership Program in the current year. Registration fee is non-refundable after Session 1.
- Each session will provide information on subjects relating to government, economic development, county asset mapping, civic affairs, and leadership and cooperative efforts within the County. Leaders and experts from the city, county and state government will be presenters during the course.
- Sessions will be conducted in various locations throughout the County.
- Upon completion of the course, participants will be encouraged to seek and accept leadership roles in the County or in their respective community.

MORE DETAILS

Class participants may self-register or be registered by a family member, an associate or an employer. Applications will be accepted at the Bastrop chamber office. If there are more than 20 applications, there will be a review/selection process conducted by the B.E.S.T. Leadership committee to ensure the diversity of the group. If not selected for the current class, the applicant will be on a waiting list that will be maintained for future class opportunity.

All applicants for the B.E.S.T. Leadership Program must be at least 18 years of age.
Conduct offensive to class members is cause for being removed from the program.

SAMPLE CURRICULUM OUTLINE (subject to change)

SESSION 1 - Team Building

Introductions, get acquainted activities, team building, small group problem solving, and assignments to be completed during the program.

SESSION 2 - Healthy Communities

Team building activity, insights to Your Personality, Healthcare Panel discussion, how to support local healthcare efforts, and youth leadership development in Bastrop County.

SESSION 3 - Capitol Day: B.E.S.T. Leadership class Explores Texas Government

Visit State Capitol, overview of legislative process, insights from state agency representatives and professional lobbyists, and meet elected officials.

SESSION 4 - County Government at Work: A Look Inside Public Service

A behind-the-scenes experience in county governance, this day showcased the people, processes, and partnerships that keep Bastrop County running.

SESSION 5 - Exploring Education, Quality of Life, and Community Support

A look at the power of collaboration in education, disaster recovery, and community coalitions, offering participants a deeper understanding of how collective leadership builds a stronger, more resilient Bastrop County.

SESSION 6, 7, 8 - Spotlights on Elgin, Smithville, & Bastrop

Learn about different types of city government & charitable giving; tours of local businesses, attractions, municipal facilities, historic locations, and more.

GRADUATION - May in Bastrop

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Name (last, first, middle) Preferred Name for Badge

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) Place of Birth (City, State/Country)

Home Address (with zip code)

Name of Company/Organization Business Address (with zip code)

Title of Position held

Business Phone Cell Phone Email Address

Preferred means of communication: ☐ Text ☐ Email ☐ Phone

Preferred mailing address: ☐ Home ☐ Business

If married, spouse's name:

Describe your primary occupation and duties, if applicable:

Provide previous employment history:

Describe your volunteer, civic, and community activities during the past five years, noting any special awards and citations:

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Provide information about your education, all levels:

What issues in our curriculum interest you the most?
Include your opinion and expectations.

In your opinion what are two issues in the county or in your community that need to be addressed?

Why have you applied to participate in the leadership program?

What do you expect to gain from participation in the leadership program?

Include a headshot when submitting this application.

☐ My organization is prepared to cover tuition if I am accepted. (\$800 until July 31 & \$850 after that)

☐ I will assume responsibility for the tuition if accepted. (\$800 until July 31 & \$850 after that)

By submitting the application, I understand the mandatory attendance for Session 1 and that more than one absence will desqualify me from graduating with the class this year.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Your application cannot be considered until all requested information and a headshot have been received. All classes are limited to 20 participants. Application submission does not guarantee placement in the class. In the event more than 20 applications are received, a panel made up from representatives of the 3 area chamber will select participants to ensure the class reflects the diversity of the participating communities.

Send to: Bastrop Chamber of Commerce
927 Main Street, Bastrop, TX 78602

Phone: (512) 303-0558 / Email: info@bastropchamber.com
Please make all checks payable to: Chamber Foundation of Bastrop County

ALL QUESTIONS ON THIS APPLICATION ARE MEANT TO ENSURE DIVERSITY, NOT TO LIMIT PARTICIPATION.