



Leadership Berkeley Class of 2026

Deadline to apply: Friday, January 30, 2026

Instructions

Thank you for applying to Leadership Berkeley. For us to process your application, we ask that you complete the application according to the following instructions:

- Complete the questions and add additional pages, as necessary. Please label each additional page with the question you are answering.
- Please note that application must be signed by both the applicant and his/her employer.

Selection Considerations

Each Leadership Berkeley class is chosen to achieve balance in the class by ensuring diversity of race, gender, industry, professional backgrounds, and leadership experience. Classes are representative of our community and include participants who represent large and small businesses, the self-employed, and nonprofit organizations. Applications will be thoroughly reviewed.

Selection considerations include:

- Participation is eligible to all individuals who live or work in the Greater Berkeley County area or a Berkeley Chamber member business in good standing
- Commitment to personal and professional growth
- Commitment and motivation to serve the community by assuming leadership roles in the voluntary and public sectors of our community
- Commitment to improving the community environment to favorably impact the economic development and quality of life in our community
- Length of time in the community

Program Tuition

In addition to time and dedication, Leadership Berkeley requires a financial commitment. To keep the cost to a minimum for the participants, the program does receive some sponsorships from the business community for the program days, opening session, and graduation. Tuition and sponsorships cover all program costs including the two-day opening session, facilitator costs, materials and meals provided during each program day, graduation meal and any required transportation needs.

Tuition fee payments are final and are non-refundable once the applicant has accepted their spot in the class.

Tuition: \$1500.00 for Members and \$1,750.00 for Non-Members

Program Participant Responsibilities

Leadership Berkeley provides its participants with the opportunity to engage in an exciting ten months of personal, professional and community exploration and it does require a time commitment.

The program begins with a two-day opening session in February. Classes meet for all-day “program days” on one Thursday of each month, usually the third Thursday, from March through October. Class members can miss a total of 8 hours per year, excluding the opening session, which is mandatory. A special graduation concludes the class in November.

To enrich the Leadership Berkeley experience and increase community engagement, in addition to the opening session and program days, a class project is required. The time commitment for the class project is dependent upon the participants. Participants who are unable to meet the requirements of the program will be dropped, with no refund. Following the completion of the program, participants are expected to stay involved in the organization, continually enhancing their Leadership experience, and helping to strengthen the program for the future.

Time Commitment

Participation in Leadership Berkeley program requires a major time commitment. Participants are expected to attend ALL sessions. Emergency absences are reviewed on a one-on-one basis. *Schedule dates and sessions are subject to change.*

Opening Session	Thursday & Friday	February 19 & 20, 2026
Environment	Thursday	March 19, 2026
Education	Thursday	April 16, 2026
History	Thursday	May 14, 2026
Economic Development	Thursday	June 18, 2026
Law Enforcement/Judiciary	Thursday	July 16, 2026
Healthcare & Social Issues	Thursday	August 20, 2026
Government	Thursday	September 17, 2026
Wrap-up Class	Thursday	October 15, 2026
Graduation	Thursday	November 19, 2026

Hours for each program day are approximately from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Applicant Information

Name:	Date:
Home Address:	Phone:
Company or Organization:	
Business Address:	Bus. Phone:
Work Email:	Cell Phone:
Nature of the business/organization:	
Title:	Yrs. In Position:
Years lived/worked in Berkeley County:	
Emergency Contact:	
Food preference or allergies:	
Responsibilities of Your Present Position:	

Industry Classification

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture/Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City/County/State Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer/Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction/Trade |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance/Banking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing | <input type="checkbox"/> Media/Advertising | <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate/Property Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant/Hospitality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retail Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |

How did you hear about Leadership Berkeley?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | <input type="checkbox"/> Colleague |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chamber newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Berkeley Graduate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employer | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamber Website |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

Optional: We wish to achieve balance and diversity in the class. It would be helpful if you would supply the following information.

Date of Birth: _____ Race: _____ Sex: _____

EDUCATION - Begin with college and include business or trade school(s) and/or other specialized training.

Name & Location of School	From - To	Degree/License	Major/Training

EMPLOYMENT

From - To	Name and Location of Employer	Position

HONORS/AWARDS/ACHIEVEMENTS

Award	Organization Presenting Award	Date

ORGANIZATIONS/ACTIVITIES - Please list membership in community, civic, business, professional, religious, and social organizations that have been of significance to you with an emphasis on activities in the last 10 years.

Organization	From - To	Positions Held/Responsibilities

Please explain what you hope to learn about Berkeley County if selected to participate in Leadership Berkeley.

List the three (3) most significant problems you feel the Berkeley County area is facing today.

1.

2.

3.

List the three (3) most notable opportunities that you feel Berkeley County has to offer.

1.

2.

3.

Please explain what specific skills/knowledge you hope to gain if selected to participate in Leadership Berkeley.

Participant Commitment

By my signature below, I agree that, should I be selected to participate in Leadership Berkeley, I will attend the opening session and all program days and the graduation. I understand that 100% attendance is expected and the opening session in February is mandatory. Those who fail to attend may be asked to withdraw, with no refund of tuition. My signature on this application indicates my commitment to these dates should I be accepted to the program.

I hereby certify that the information in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Employer Commitment

We wish to nominate the candidate listed above for participation in the Leadership Berkeley program. If our candidate is selected to participate, we agree to pay the tuition fee. It is also our understanding that, if accepted, our candidate will attend all sessions.

Company or Organization _____

Address _____

Signature _____

Name (please print) _____

Position/Title _____

Submit Application

Please submit the completed application by January 30, 2026.

Mail Application:

Berkeley Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 968
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
(843) 761-8238 or (843) 577-9549

You may also email a scanned copy with signatures to info@berkeleysc.org.

Note: The Berkeley Chamber does not discriminate based on race, sex, religion, or national origin.