Destin Forward
Building our future leaders one member at a time!

Up to 25 business professionals will be accepted into Destin Forward. The program will begin in late August and end with graduation in May. The program is designed to provide a hands-on learning experience into the issues facing the Destin community on a day-to-day basis. Participants will learn from experts in many different fields, including the environment, boat safety, tourism promotion, and government affairs.

Tentative Program Agenda

(Class will meet on the second Thursday of every month - subject to change)

August– Meet & Greet, Team Building
September – Water Ways Day
October – Tourism Day
November – Economic Development Day
December – Arts, Culture, Non-profit Day
January – Environmental Day
February – Tallahassee Field Trip
March – City of Destin Day
April – Military
May - Graduation

Destin Forward
Application for Acceptance

Please type or print. Illegible, incomplete, or unsigned applications will not be accepted.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____

Gender M F Age _____

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Present Employer _____

Position/Title _____ Supervisor _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ ZIP _____ Email _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

Employer **Position** **Dates**

_____

_____

_____

PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS/CIVIC/ACTIVITIES/HONORS/ COMMUNITY INVOLVMENT

(Begin with the most recent activities)

Organization **Dates** **Positions Held/Honor**

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please keep answers limited to the space provided.

Describe your participation in activities of the Destin Chamber?

What do you consider to be the one highlight or accomplishment so far in your career?

What main issue do you think faces the Destin community?
What would you do to address this?

Why are you interested in participating in Destin Forward?

Why should you be accepted into Destin Forward?

What do you expect to gain from Destin Forward?

PARTICIPATION

Successful completion of Destin Forward requires attendance at the opening session/retreat, attendance at 80% of the classes, and participation in a class project. Classes will take place once per month from September through May and require a full day's participation. Extracurricular activities include the following:

- Attending one Destin City Council meeting
- Attending one Destin Chamber board meeting
- Attending one Tourist Development Council Meeting
- Attending one Destin Chamber Business Before Hours
- Attending one Destin Chamber Business After Hours
- Completing 10 hours of service to a board, organization, or event in which you are not previously involved

Extra credit opportunities will be available if the above requirements are not met. All extra credit must be approved by the Destin Forward committee.

To be accepted into Destin Forward, both you and your supervisor/manager MUST sign this application acknowledging the above requirements and accepting responsibility to participate.

TUITION

Tuition for Destin Forward is $749 for chamber members, $949 for non-members (includes a one-year individual membership). Tuition will be billed to you at acceptance into the class and must be paid by Aug. 3, 2026, or you will not be permitted to participate. Tuition fees are non-refundable after the beginning of the program.

A $75 hardship scholarship is available for some students. If you would like to apply, please include a letter of request with your application.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Partial scholarships may be available. If you wish to apply for assistance, please submit a letter in a separate document from this application requesting tuition assistance. The letter should include:

- Why you are asking for assistance
- Confirming your company will pay the balance of tuition due
- If your participation is contingent on this scholarship.

Letters should be addressed to Destin Forward Scholarship Committee, c/o Destin Chamber, 4484 Legendary Drive, Suite A, Destin, FL, 32541.

ACCEPTANCE

Acceptance letters should be mailed to you the week of July 13, 2026.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge and understand the requirements for Destin Forward and commit to allowing _____ to fully participate.

_____ _____

Supervisor/Manager Signature **Date** **Printed Name**

I acknowledge and understand the requirements for Destin Forward and commit to full participation. I understand that submitting this application in no way guarantees my acceptance into Destin Forward. I understand that excessive absences from sessions can result in being dropped from the class and that no fees are refundable.

_____

Applicant Signature **Date**

Deadline for submission is July 10, 2026.

Completed applications should be mailed to the following address:
Destin Chamber
4484 Legendary Drive, Suite A
Destin, FL 32541