

2026 Application
How do you define



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF
CAPE CORAL

LEADERSHIP

Our 13 week program will help you:

- Learn about the infrastructure that drives our city
- Meet local leaders and dignitaries
- Tour facilities not open to the general public
- Learn about community stewardship
- Become part of the elite core of community leaders
- Establish a bond and form a network with your classmates

Celebrating 33 Years!!!



News-Press. | **LOCALiQ**
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Application Deadline: July 25, 2026

WHAT IS LEADERSHIP CAPE CORAL

Effective Leadership is a key element in any successful community. Continually developing and encouraging the participation of new leaders is essential in developing fresh ideas and perspectives while ensuring a continuity of leaders for the future.

Leadership Cape Coral is a thirteen-week program which educates the participants about the components that make up Cape Coral. The various program days include team building, public safety, education, government, cultural opportunities, infrastructure, corrections, public services, healthcare, real estate and construction. Each program day is organized and chaired by graduates of the program so that they can share their knowledge of the program.

There have been more than 1000 graduates of the program since the charter year in 1993. Many of these graduates have become a part of Cape Coral Leadership Alumni and often go on to the Advanced Leadership Cape Coral program with a focus on developing and enhancing management and leadership skills. The final tier of leadership education is Cape Coral Community Trustee program, which is by invitation and helps participants discover areas where they can assume community leadership roles.

Today, our leadership graduates are contributing to vital areas of the community such as leadership roles in government ranging from the City to State level, community organizations like the American Cancer Society, Easter Seals and Junior Achievement as well as leadership with some of our largest employers. It is not uncommon for our leadership graduates to see the value and feel the need to pass along the gift of leadership by participating in our Jr. Leadership Cape Coral program. Without a doubt the Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral has one of the most comprehensive leadership programs in Florida.

It is simple to participate, just fill out the application and return it to the Chamber with your tuition payment. If you require a payment plan, we do have limited opportunities. All participation fees, meals, transportation, and special attire are included in the tuition.

LEADERSHIP CAPE CORAL VALUES...

In practicing integrity, we will strive to be honest, respectful, ethical, fair and authentic. We will act in a professional manner consistent with community expectations.

In practicing service, we understand our roles as representatives of the Leadership Cape Coral programs. We will endeavor to practice humility, to make things better for others and to treat others as we want to be treated. We will offer criticism in a constructive manner.

In creating unity of purpose, we will practice cooperation and teamwork to the betterment of our programs and community.

Towards being responsible, we will master the elements of our assignments, meet deadlines, smooth transitions between changes in leadership, be solution-oriented and do more than what is expected. We will follow through with our commitments and be reliable. We will be accountable for our actions.

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

Leadership Cape Coral...

- Prepares you for community leadership by heightening awareness of key issues affecting our community
- Offers interaction with prominent community leaders who influence our daily lives
- Empowers you to change your life, be more than you were going to be
- Learn how to enhance creative problem solving and team building skills
- Lets you explore long-term opportunities for community involvement
- Establishes a professional network, and life-long friendships

THIS PROGRAM IS IDEAL FOR, BUT NOT LIMITED TO

- Managers who are relatively new to the community and who will benefit by knowing the resources available locally
- Those who will benefit from learning the dynamics of working with a diverse group of people in terms of age, occupations, gender, race and geographical backgrounds, etc.
- A new business owner who is relatively new to the community who also will benefit from first-hand knowledge of key people, agencies and other businesses
- Natives of the area who feel they need and want a deeper understanding of how the community works
- Employees who have responsibilities that include knowledge of various government, educational and other organizations
- Anyone who has an interest in the dynamics of leadership and management

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

After graduation, the participants will have a heightened respect for and knowledge of the community, providing an additional resource for the business owner. In addition, the employer gets an employee who has been exposed to many different ideas in the fields of management and leadership.

CLASS PROJECT

Following graduation, the participants may decide to pursue a class project to benefit non-profits in our community. There is no requirement to do so, and the graduation is not impeded by opting out. Should your class decide to take on a project, it will require some additional weeks of planning, and participation in addition to the 13 weeks of the Leadership Cape Coral program.

APPLY TODAY AND UNLOCK YOUR LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Each session will consist of forums, seminars, and field trips that have been custom designed to explore the many challenges and opportunities facing the community leaders of tomorrow. Although start and end times are all different, please plan your calendars to begin at 8:00 a.m. and completing at 5:00 p.m. Kick off will begin at 1:00 pm on Friday, August 7th and conclude on Saturday, August 8th at 11:00 a.m. **Kick-off is an overnight stay for Class Members Only, no spouses or family members please.**

Session One - Kick Off	Fri.-Sat., August 7-8
Session Two - History & Community Steward Day	Thursday, August 13
Session Three - Real Estate & Construction Day	Thursday, August 20
Session Four - Made In Cape Coral	Thursday, August 27
Session Five - Healthcare Day	Thursday, September 3
Session Six - Media Day	Thursday, September 10
Session Seven - Public Safety Day	Thursday, September 17
Session Eight - Tourism/City Government Day	Friday, September 25
Session Nine - Infrastructure Day	Thursday, October 1
Session Ten - Mosquito Control/Sheriff's Day	Thursday, October 8
Session Eleven - Education Day	Thursday, October 15
Session Twelve - Industry Appreciation Day	Friday, October 23
Session Thirteen - Arts & Entertainment Day	Thursday, October 29
Graduation	Friday, November 14

**DATES ARE UNLIKELY TO CHANGE.
VENUES MAY CHANGE DUE TO AVAILABILITY.**

Leadership Cape Coral Class of 2026

Confidential Application

Deadline For Applying Is: 4:00 PM, July 25th

PERSONAL

Name _____
(Last) (First) (M.I.)

Nickname _____ Years in Lee County _____ In Cape Coral _____
(for Name Badge)

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Cell Phone _____
(Month)/(Day)

Polo Shirt Size: ____ Men ____ Women
(Please write in size in space above S,M,L,XL,XXL,XXXL)

E-mail Address _____

Emergency Contact _____ Relation _____

Telephone _____

Any physical limitations? If so, please describe _____

Dietary restrictions? If so, please describe _____

EMPLOYMENT

Employer _____ Title _____

Business Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business Phone _____ Fax _____

Type of Business _____

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

The first session (Kick-Off) is an overnight and team building session that is mandatory. The first session starts on Friday, August 7, 2026 at 1:00 PM and ends on Saturday, August 8, 2026 at 11:00 AM. **CLASS SESSIONS ARE EVERY THURSDAY FOLLOWING KICK OFF WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TOURISM/GOVERNMENT DAY ON SEPTEMBER 25TH AND INDUSTRY APPRECIATION DAY WHICH WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION OF THE INDUSTRY APPRECIATION LUNCH FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD.** Participants must attend 10 regular sessions of the program to graduate. Session dates and subjects have been included for your review to determine scheduling conflicts. **PROGRAM TUITION IS DUE IN FULL WITH APPLICATION.** Please contact Donna Germain, President/CEO of the Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral, if other payment arrangements need to be made. (239) 549-6900 ext. 107

CLASS IS LIMITED TO 35 PARTICIPANTS

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Please tell us about yourself: past employment, special interests, education...

How many hours do you commit to various volunteer activities each month?

____ Professional ____ Civic ____ Religious ____ Social ____ Other

Please list in order of importance to you, as many as five community, civic, professional, business, religious, social, athletic and other organization in which you are or have been a member.

Organization

Years Involved

Position Held

If you had a magic wand, what would you do to improve Cape Coral?

Describe an important goal in your life and what steps you are taking to achieve that goal.

EMPLOYER/SPONSOR AUTHORIZATION

I have approved the submission of this enrollment form, the time and financial commitment required to participate in this program.

Name _____ Date _____
(Please Print)

Signature of Sponsor _____ Title _____

REFUND EXPECTATION

As there are start up costs associated with the program such as shirts, name badges, meals and overnight fees, any refunds requested after 7/25/2026 will reflect a \$600 fee to reflect the startup costs deducted from the investment.

Signature _____ Date _____
(Participant Signature Required)

Leadership Cape Coral Tuition: \$1,300.00 for Chamber Members \$1700 for Non-Chamber Members

Tuition Payments are required with your application. Payment plans are available by credit card only. Please make Checks Payable to: Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral.

Bill my: ___ VISA ___ MasterCard ___ Discover ___ American Express ___ Check Enclosed

Account # _____ Exp. Date _____ CVS _____

Billing Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Signature _____

For more information or questions,
Please contact Donna Germain at (239) 549-6900 ext. 107
or donna@capecoralchamber.com

Please mail application to:
Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral
Attn. Leadership Cape Coral - Donna Germain
Mailing Address: PO Box 100747
Cape Coral, FL 33910

Application Deadline: July 25, 2026

