

2026-27 Application



Thank you for your interest in Leadership Franklin County! Our program is open to all residents and employees of businesses in Franklin County. There are no prerequisites for the program, and all leadership experience levels are welcome.

LFC is a subsidiary of the Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce. In partnership with Neosho County Community College and Ottawa University, LFC offers a structured leadership development program that:

- Identifies and cultivates leadership skills.
- Creates awareness of challenges and opportunities in our communities.
- Inspires participants to embrace the responsibilities of providing leadership.
- Encourages action and involvement to enhance the quality of life in Franklin County.

The selection process for LFC is competitive. Class size is limited.

To be considered for class membership, please review the Class Expectations and then submit:

- This completed and signed application
- A reference statement from your sponsor or personal statement of purpose if self-sponsored
- A resume / list of involvement
- **Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.**
- **Deadline to apply: 5:00 pm on Monday, June 22, 2026.**

Return your application to:

Leadership Franklin County, PO Box 580 109 E. Second St. Ottawa, KS 66067 or
leadershipfrco@gmail.com (preferred)

If you have any questions about the LFC application process,
email leadershipfrco@gmail.com or call 785-242-1000.

Applicant Information

Applicant's name _____

Home address _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Work Email _____ Personal Email _____

Number of years working/living in Franklin County _____

Occupation/title _____

Employer (if applicable) _____

Employer address (if applicable) _____

Work phone (if applicable) _____

Sponsor Agreement/Acknowledgement

Please attach a reference statement from your sponsor. Reference statement must include acknowledgement of time needed to attend Leadership courses and activities. Attendance is strongly encouraged, and absences can jeopardize completion of the program. Sponsors must sign off on all absences. If you are self-sponsored, please include a purpose statement for applying for the class.

Resume / Involvement

Please attach your resume and list community involvement or areas of community interest, if any.

Attendance

Attendance and participation are essential for successful completion of Leadership Franklin County. If absences occur, the participant's sponsor must sign off on absences and notify the program coordinator. Participants will be given instructions on meeting expectations for missed sessions. Class members are expected to attend each session and complete the assigned coursework. Missing more than one of the sessions may disqualify the participant from recognition as a graduate of the program.

Financial Commitment

Leadership Franklin County 2026-2027 tuition is \$550 per class member. This fee includes instructor costs, materials, travel, lunches and refreshments. Do not send payment with this application. Please provide billing information. We will invoice the responsible party upon class selection. Financial assistance is available. If interested, please email leadershipfrco@gmail.com

Bill to _____

Company (if applicable) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Agreement

The Board of Trustees provides an excellent program for the benefit of the participants. It is understood that any applicant accepted for participation in the class will follow the expectations including attending all sessions, completing the coursework required, participating in the community service opportunities and be financially responsible for the tuition as indicated above. Absence from more than one session can jeopardize graduation from the class. Applicants also ensure the support of their sponsor/employer to attend all scheduled sessions and complete all coursework. Upon class selection and after payment, no portion of the tuition is refundable.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Sponsor Signature _____ Date _____

**By signing this form, Sponsors acknowledge that they have reviewed the class expectations, attendance requirement, and the class schedule. Sponsors are encouraged to have regular reflection check-ins with participants. Sponsors agree to allow participants to attend all Leadership Franklin County courses and activities and will notify program coordinators of any absences.*

The mission of Leadership Franklin County is to develop and inspire leaders to enhance the quality of life in our communities.

Class Expectations

Welcome to Leadership Franklin County 2026-2027

We, as trustees, have put together a comprehensive nine-month program that is designed to assist you in learning about your own leadership style and your community. This program is based upon the framework included in this notebook. All program content falls into one or more of the five focus areas: Connections, Curriculum, Collaboration, Community and Capabilities.

- We will be traveling to Topeka on Feb. 4th for a tour of the state's capitol.

Requirements

- Attend all sessions. If you miss more than one session, eligibility for graduation must be determined by the Trustees. Sessions are full days, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (with social/breakfast time beginning at 8 a.m.):
 - Thursday, Aug. 27
 - Friday, Aug. 28
 - Thursday, Sept. 24
 - Thursday, Oct. 15
 - Thursday, Nov. 19
 - December (No class)
 - Thursday, Jan. 21
 - Thursday, Feb. 4
 - Thursday, Feb. 18
 - Thursday, March 25
 - Thursday, April 15
 - Thursday, April 22 (Morning class with graduation luncheon to follow)
- Polos and name tags are expected to be worn during classes and community events.
- Participants are expected to engage with the curriculum inside and outside of class time with homework due at the next curriculum class period.
- Cell phone use should be minimal and limited to break times.
- Select and complete at least ten hours of a community service opportunity (requires additional time and effort outside of class sessions). This will be discussed in detail during your first few class sessions. This opportunity is designed for you to make a difference locally in an area of interest you feel passionate about. **Service hours must be with entities participants are not already giving time and cannot be tied to current employment.*
- Attend two different community meetings (Rotary, Optimist Club, etc.), two different government meetings (school board, city commission, etc.) and two Ottawa Area or Wellsville Chamber of Commerce events (Chamber Coffee, Ribbon Cutting, After Hours, etc.) Following the meeting/event, complete the Meeting/Event Attendance Submission Form. This requirement must be completed by March 25 to qualify for graduation. A list of potential meetings is included in this notebook. One of these meetings or events must be outside of your home city. Participants are encouraged to attend meetings or events you've never attended! ****Participants must attend meetings outside of any they currently attend due to employment and/or other community engagements.***

Take time to get to know one another and the LFC Trustees!

