

What Participants Will Gain

Many graduates find that this training taps something inside of them they didn't know existed. Today, they are contributing in vital areas of the community including politics, business, social services and community civic organizations.

Participants will gain the following from Leadership Eau Claire™:

- A far greater understanding and perspective of our community.
- Improved leadership and decision-making skills.
- A new network of professionals.
- Enhanced confidence.
- A passion to improve our community.



What Employers Will Gain

Many employers derive multiple benefits from their investment in Leadership Eau Claire™ including:

- Grooms leaders that contribute to their organizations.
- Provides professional networking opportunities.
- Helps employees develop greater personal vision.
- Offers exposure for companies.
- Reinforces skills and imparts knowledge to participants.
- Provides a package of cost-effective, valuable training.

How The Program Works

The program begins with an overnight retreat in northern Wisconsin where attendees participate in a number of networking and team-building activities designed to demonstrate the dynamics of effective leadership. Then, eight one-day sessions are held from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from September through April. Each session offers hands-on experiences and unique opportunities to interact with community leaders. Topical sessions are as listed on the calendar. It concludes with a one-day closing retreat in May.



Group Projects

Participants are required to participate in a group project. The class is divided into teams, which throughout the year work with a community non-profit organization to complete a service project. The process is monitored by the LEC Executive Committee.

Staying Involved

After successful completion of the program, community organizations receive a directory of graduates listing the individual's areas of interest and expertise. The information is shared with community organizations as they seek volunteers for board and committee appointments. In addition, LEC graduates are invited to participate in a variety of networking and educational opportunities sponsored by the LEC Alumni Committee.

Attendance

The program has a strict attendance policy designed to ensure that participants get the most out of the program. Attendance at the Opening Retreat is mandatory and anyone missing two or more sessions may be unable to complete the program.



Tuition

Tuition for the Leadership Eau Claire™ program is \$1,299 for Chamber members and \$1,499 for non-members. The cost includes 11 days of training and all program fees, which includes meals, transportation, materials and accommodations for the retreat. Tuition payment is required upon acceptance into the program unless prior arrangements are made for a payment plan.

Tuition Assistance

The Eau Claire Chamber Educational Foundation provides a limited number of scholarships for individuals from non-profit organizations or very small businesses. Participants requesting assistance are asked to submit a letter explaining their financial situation along with their application.

Commitment Criteria

Applicants must have the full support of the organization or corporation they represent. To graduate from Leadership Eau Claire™, participants must:

- 1) Attend the opening retreat.
- 2) Have no more than one unexcused absence.
- 3) Participate in a group project.

Selection Criteria

Potential participants are asked to complete an application and attend a group interview session. Applications are available on the Chamber's website at www.eauclaichamber.org. The LEC Executive Committee will select up to 45 participants on the basis of community interests, accomplishments, experience and ability to assume expanded community responsibility. Since the number of appointments to LEC is limited, applicants who are not selected are encouraged to reapply in subsequent years. No more than two candidates per company will be selected to participate each year.

Participants will be notified of acceptance in July. No tuition is due before acceptance.

Informational Meeting

An optional informational meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 26 at the Chamber office, 101 N. Farwell St., for anyone interested in learning more about the program. Please call the Chamber office at 715.834.1204 to register.

Deadline for application is June 1, 2018.

Why Should You Apply?

““LEC was an amazing opportunity to connect with the Eau Claire community in ways I never could have imagined. I always felt I was active and engaged with the happenings in Eau Claire. However, I found so much more that I hadn't been exposed to. The program really expands your view of our area and gives you the tools to make a greater impact.”

– Ben Michael, JAMF, LEC Class of 2018

“The Leadership Eau Claire™ program offers a phenomenal opportunity to work on professional development goals, as well as experience amazing behind-the-scenes investigations of our local community. It fosters deeper appreciation of the people, places, and organizations that call Eau Claire home...I would highly recommend this program to others, at any stage of their career.”

– Karen Jacobson, Chippewa Valley Museum, Class of 2018

“The depth and substance of Leadership Eau Claire™ are unmatched in this area. The connections made during the program – not only with your peers, but with your community – simply can't be replicated by traditional networking and professional development opportunities. Leadership Eau Claire™ opens doors to people and places that will surprise even lifelong residents. This program should be a growth cornerstone for all business professionals in Eau Claire.”

– Justin Harings, CCFBank, Class of 2018

“I really truly cannot express enough how profound the experience of making connections, learning about professions beyond my scope of expertise, and making new-found friends has had a positive impact on my personal [AND] professional life.”

– Nicole Schultz, UW-Eau Claire, Class of 2018

**Deadline for application is
June 1, 2018**

Applications available at
www.eauclairechamber.org

2018-2019 Calendar

- August 29-30** Opening Retreat
- September 27** Agriculture & Environment Day
- October 25** Government & Law Day
- November 15** Arts & Tourism Day
- December 13** Media & Culture Day

Holiday Break

- January 17** Human Services and Volunteerism Day
- February 21** Education Day
- March 21** Health & Wellness Day
- April 18** Business & Industry Day
- May 2** *Weather Contingency Day*
- May 30** Closing Retreat

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Eau Claire Area
Chamber of Commerce
at 715-834-1204 or via email at
seelen@eauclairechamber.org

Coordinated by



What It's All About

The goal of the Leadership Eau Claire™ (LEC) program is to enhance participants' community knowledge and leadership qualities through skill-building exercises, activities and educational days that inspire participants to take an active role in shaping our community. During the nine-month program, participants discuss the issues facing the community, enhance their leadership skills in order to assume leadership roles and are exposed to involvement opportunities in the community.

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