LEADERSHIP WAYCROSS Class of 2027 Application

Developing tomorrow's leaders … today!

The Leadership Waycross Steering Committee targets individuals: (i) with a sincere commitment, motivation, and interest in serving the community; (ii) who have demonstrated commitment by involvement in community activities; (iii) who are interested in seeking, or intending to seek public office, boards, commissions, or key leadership roles; (iv) who represent all segments of the community; or (v) who have demonstrated leadership qualities or potential for development of those qualities.

Instructions:

1. Please type or print the application in full. The application is available on the Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce website as a form-fillable PDF document. The web address is: https://www.waycrosschamber.org/leadership-waycross
2. Do not attach resumes, recommendation letters, or business cards. However, you may attach additional pages, if necessary, to answer any questions contained in the application.
3. Your completed application should include:
    - Completed Application
    - Signed Program Commitment Form
    - Signed Employer Commitment Form (if applicable)
    - Signed Scholarship Request Form and Application Letter (if applicable)
    - Payment of $100.00 deposit
4. At the time you submit your application, please submit a headshot of yourself via email to the Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce:

Bring or mail the completed application to:
Leadership Waycross
c/o Waycross-Ware County Chamber of Commerce 215 Pendleton Street | PO Box 1282
Waycross, GA 31502
Headshots: lbeauregard@coastalpines.edu or

Telephone: 912-283-3742

DEADLINE NOVEMBER 4, 2026 by 5:00pm.

LEADERSHIP WAYCROSS Class of 2027 APPLICATION

Name: Title: (check one) ○ Mr. ○ Mrs. ○ Ms. ○ Dr.

_____

Last First Middle Preferred name

Birthday (Month/date/year): _____ Spouse's name: (if applicable) _____

Contact Information: check preferred mailing address: ○ home ○ work

Home:

_____

Street (or P.O. Box) City, State ZIP Telephone

Work:

_____

Street (or P.O. Box) City, State ZIP Telephone

_____

Employer Title/Position

Job Duties:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Preferred email address _____ Mobile Phone _____

Prior Work Experience:

Employer Title Dates

_____

_____

_____

Professional Development, Courses, Seminars, and/or Workshops:

_____

_____

Civic, Business, Professional, or Organizational Memberships:

_____

_____

Honors, Awards, Publications:

_____

_____

Education:

Institution Degree Dates

_____

_____

_____

Letters of Recommendation: (*We request you include persons local to the Waycross-Ware County community.*)

Name Address Telephone

_____

_____

1. Describe a challenge that you faced in your life- whether personal or professional- and how you handled that challenge.

2. What do you hope to gain from participating in Leadership Waycross?

3. Describe a problem our community faces and what role you would like to play in resolving it?

4. Have you ever applied to Leadership Waycross before? ◯ Yes ◯ No
   If so, please list the year(s) you applied and explain the reasons you are reapplying to the program.

5. Have you ever attended any other Leadership program? ◯ Yes ◯ No
   If so, please list the program(s) attended, the year(s) of attendance, and state whether you successfully completed the program.

T-Shirt/Sweatshirt size: _____ How long have you lived in the Waycross area? _____

SCHEDULE FOR THE LEADERSHIP WAYCROSS CLASS OF 2027 - Subject to change.

Orientation Day*	Jan 6	Human Services Day	July 7
Bonding Retreat*	Jan 15-17	Health & Fitness Day	Aug 11
State Government Day	Feb 9-10	Education Day	Sept 8
Local Government Day	Mar 10	Arts & Tourism Day	Oct 13
Regional Impact Day	Apr 7	Vision Retreat*	Oct 15
Agriculture Day	May 12	Graduation*	Nov 4
Business & Industry Day	June 9	*Mandatory Day	

Regional Impact Day could shift due to availability at the base for visitors. No other changes will be made to this calendar.

TUITION: $**1200.00** – A $**100.00 deposit** is due at the time of submitting the application. Tuition is due on December 4, 2026. Many employers pay for their employee's tuition. Tuition is non-refundable and non-transferable. Applicants who are denied entry into the Leadership Waycross Class for which they apply will receive a refund of any deposit paid.

SCHOLARSHIPS: A small number of partial scholarships may be awarded depending on availability of scholarship funds from the Leadership Waycross Alumni. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of need and upon the applicant agreeing to the requirements of the scholarship program. Applicants for a scholarship must write a letter to the Leadership Waycross Steering Committee explaining the reason for their need, the amount that their employer is willing to contribute toward tuition, any reason why the employer cannot pay the full cost of tuition, and the amount of scholarship funds requested. Scholarship recipients must complete volunteer service hours as directed by the chair(s) of the Leadership Waycross Steering Committee. The scholarship application letter must be submitted simultaneously with the application.

LEADERSHIP WAYCROSS SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST FORM

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING ONLY IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR A SCHOLARSHIP

I affirm that the statements made in my scholarship application letter are true and that I am in need of financial assistance in order to participate in Leadership Waycross. I am requesting a scholarship in the amount of $_____ (dollars). I further agree that I will complete the required number of community volunteer service hours as directed by the chair(s) of the Leadership Waycross Steering Committee.

_____ _____

Applicant's Signature Date

PLEASE REMEMBER TO ATTACH YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION LETTER.

LEADERSHIP WAYCROSS PROGRAM COMMITMENT FORM

By applying to become a member of the Leadership Waycross Program (the "program"), I agree to follow and abide by the following program rules:

1. I agree to attend all scheduled sessions of the program. I acknowledge that, subject to changes which may result from unforeseen scheduling conflicts, the schedule for the Leadership Waycross class is:

Orientation Day*	Jan 6	Human Services Day	July 7
Bonding Retreat*	Jan 15-17	Health & Fitness Day	Aug 11
State Government Day	Feb 9-10	Education Day	Sept 8
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2. My work and personal commitments will not interfere with my ability to attend the program activities.
3. will be on time to all Leadership events.
4. Participants are strongly encouraged to attend EVERY program activity.
5. Attendance at Orientation Day, Bonding Retreat, Vision Retreat, and Graduation is mandatory. Failure to complete any one of these events will result in immediate dismissal from the program.
6. To graduate, participants must attend at least eighty percent (80%) of all the program activities. This means that I am allowed to miss no more than two (2) regularly scheduled Leadership days, other than the mandatory days. Exceeding the two (2) allowable absences on non-mandatory Leadership days will result in immediate dismissal from the program.
7. Participants missing Leadership days will not be allowed to "make up" for an absence by attending a similar Leadership day as part of a subsequent Leadership class.
8. Participants are required to attend all portions of the Leadership days, including meals and transportation aboard the bus (when provided).
9. Absence, as used here for determining the number of allowable absences, means:
    a. a) Absence of four (4) hours or more constitutes a full day.
    b. b) Absence of less than four (4) hours constitutes a half day.
10. Participants are expected to at all times conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the surrounding circumstances. Participants are expected to act professionally at all times. Engaging in any conduct that is unbecoming of a servant-leader may result in dismissal from the program.

11. Participants must abide by the dress code set for each Leadership day. Failure to follow the dress code may result in the participant being asked to leave the Leadership day. Any participant asked to leave a Leadership day for violating the dress code will be marked absent from the entire day and such absence will be counted in with any other absences, which may cause the participant to exceed the allowable number of absences and may result in dismissal from the program.
12. Dismissal from the program, either by failing to attend one of the mandatory days, exceeding the number of allowable absences, violating program rules, or for any other reason, means that the participant shall not participate in any additional Leadership events. If a participant is dismissed from the program, no refund of any portion of the tuition will be given. If, upon dismissal from the program, the participant desires to be allowed to reapply in the future, the participant may appeal to the Leadership Waycross Steering Committee for permission to reapply. If the dismissed participant is allowed to reapply to the program in the future, the participant will be required to pay the costs of tuition for the year in which he or she reapplies.
13. Participants are encouraged to attend and complete the extra-curricular activities which will be detailed at Orientation Day.
14. Tuition for the program is $**1200.00**. A $**100.00 deposit** is due upon application to the program. The balance of tuition is due in full no later than December 4, 2026.
    a. I have read information appearing above and agree to abide by the rules of the Leadership Waycross program as contained herein or as hereafter amended. I agree to make the commitment required of me as a participant in the Leadership Waycross program, and I affirm that all of the information listed in this application is true.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

_____

Signature of Applicant

_____

Applicant's Printed Name

EMPLOYER COMMITMENT FORM (if applicable)

This form must be included with the application, if the applicant is presently employed.

I/We _____ ("employer") am/are the employer of _____ ("applicant") who is applying for admission to the Leadership Waycross program.

Employer agrees to sponsor the applicant in the Leadership Waycross program by:

1. Providing the applicant with the time off of work to participate in all the Leadership Waycross events; AND
2. Paying the applicant's $**1200.00** non-refundable and non-transferable tuition; OR
3. Paying $_____ toward the applicant's non-refundable and non transferable tuition.

UPON APPLICANT'S ACCEPTANCE, EMPLOYER WILL BE INVOICED AND PAYMENT WILL BE DUE BY 5:00 P.M. ON DECEMBER 4, 2026.

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_____ _____

Authorized Signature Date

_____

Printed Name and Title of Authorized Signer