

APPLY BY  
MAY 29, 2026



**NEW**

# Candidate Training Program

## LEAD WHERE YOU LIVE

Have you ever thought about running for public office? Do you know what it takes to run a campaign? Commerce Lexington's Candidate Training Program prepares business and community leaders with the knowledge, skills, and insights needed to run an effective campaign for local office and make a meaningful impact through public service.

### WHAT:

This nonpartisan program is designed for individuals who are considering running for local offices — such as the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council or the Fayette County School Board — as well as those interested in serving on local boards and commissions. Through interactive sessions with experienced practitioners and community leaders, participants will gain practical insight into the fundamentals of running for office, including campaign finance, fundraising, message development, voter engagement strategies, and key issues affecting the Lexington business community, housing, and economic development.

### WHO:

Note that this program is for future candidates for office - not those who have already filed to run. If you are interested in shaping the future of Lexington through public service, we encourage you to apply.

### WHEN:

The program will take place **August 27–28, 2026**, at Commerce Lexington (330 E. Main Street) and offers a unique opportunity to learn what it takes to lead and serve effectively at the local level.

### COST:

There is no cost to apply. However, for those accepted into the program a \$50 fee will be required to participate. Space is limited to ensure a high-quality experience.

### DEADLINE TO APPLY:

The deadline to submit applications is **Friday, May 29, 2026**. Please complete all sections of the application to be considered for the program. To apply on-line, go to [www.commercelexington.com/candidate.html](http://www.commercelexington.com/candidate.html).

### PROGRAM SUPPORTED BY:

