



**2019-2020
LEADERSHIP LEXINGTON YOUTH PROGRAM
STUDENT APPLICATION**

**PARTICIPATION IS OPEN TO JUNIOR STUDENTS WITH AN
UNWEIGHTED 3.0 GPA (11th grade status in August 2019)**

Participants will be chosen by an independent selection committee. A holistic evaluation process is considered when selecting the Leadership Lexington Youth Program participants. First, applicants will be scored based on submitted application materials. A second-round interview process will take place for students. Students will be contacted directly by Commerce Lexington with their interview date and time. Please keep in mind this is a competitive process where applicants are scored based on submitted application materials, interviews with committee members, selection committee discussion and evaluation. The makeup of each year's class is intended to reflect the diversity of our city. Consideration of school representation may also play into the final class composition.

**HARD COPY APPLICATIONS MUST BE TURNED INTO
YOUR SCHOOL CONTACT BY MARCH 15, 2019.**

School contacts are listed on our website:

<http://www.commercelexington.com/leadership-lexington-youth.html>

Please submit your completed application, either typed or written legibly in ink, printed on one side of the page only.

Applications and/or letters of recommendation will not be accepted after the deadline.

What is Leadership Lexington Youth Program?

Our mission is to prepare diverse individuals for leadership through education and hands-on interaction, touching upon issues and resources pertaining to our community. The program will motivate the students to think seriously about the role they would like to play and the difference they can make in the Lexington community.

Participants will interact with each other and community leaders, discuss issues, careers, business and post-secondary institutions. The program is very active and requires much interaction among participants. We expect students involved to give 110%.

Activities of the Program:

- **Interact with classmates through icebreakers and team-building exercises**
- **Participate in group learning activities**
- **Tour businesses and sites in Lexington**
- **Listen and respond to speakers**
- **Participate in etiquette training**
- **Learn about financial planning**
- **Interact with the Steering Committee Members**
- **Compose reflections on the sessions sharing what you learned**
- **Meet Leadership Challenges presented by program leadership**
- **Learn about various leadership styles**

Who should apply for Leadership Lexington Youth?

We are looking for high school students who possess leadership characteristics. In particular, we are interested in working with students who possess some, if not most, of the following traits to a satisfactory level:

- **Cooperative Attitude**
- **Maturity**
- **Positive Attitude**
- **Sense of Community**
- **Leadership Potential**
- **Mutual Trust and Respect**
- **Conscientiousness**
- **Self-motivation**
- **Curiosity and Forward-thinking**
- **Open to Networking Experiences**

Note: The above descriptors will be taken into account as part of the selection process.

Leadership Lexington Youth Program Selection Schedule

- 1. Application Available: February 15, 2019**
- 2. Application Due: March 15, 2019 (Deadline is firm) – Submit application to School Contact**
- 3. Steering Committee blind scores applications: March – April**
- 4. Personal interviews: April - May – Students will be contacted by Commerce Lexington with interview date and time.**
- 5. Acceptance/regret letters mailed to students' home addresses the first week of June**
- 6. For students accepted into program, acceptance forms and tuition payment of \$375* are due back to Commerce Lexington to verify position in class:**

Thursday, July 25, 2019

(The fee assists with covering the cost of charter transportation, lunch and snacks throughout the program year, training and development, and graduation for students, parents/guardians and school contacts.)

***Scholarships may be available upon request for students accepted into the program.**

2019-2020 CLASS SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

September 3, 2019 – Parent/Guardian Orientation

(Takes place at 5:30pm)

September 4, 2019 - Student Orientation

Note: Both orientations demand mandatory participation

Day Sessions

October 2, 2019

November 6, 2019

December 4, 2019

January 8, 2020

February 5, 2020

March 4, 2020

April 8, 2020

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Leadership Lexington Youth is a leadership program directed toward individuals who possess leadership qualities. **Requirements of this program demand a strict time commitment.** With the honor and privilege of being selected into the program comes the responsibility to be on time and participate wholeheartedly. **The orientation is mandatory (NO EXCEPTIONS)** to develop group cohesion from the onset of the program. **One parent/guardian is required to attend parent/guardian orientation.** Classes begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. and will run until 3:30 p.m. Class members must attend all sessions to graduate from the program. The consequence of missing a session could be dismissal from program. Excused absences will be considered on a case by case basis evaluated by program leadership. Students will be required to make up any absence with a written assignment provided by the program director.

REPORTING ABSENCES

Class members must attend all sessions to graduate from the program. Any possible exceptions to this must be accompanied by a note from a parent/guardian to the LLYP Director. If a student is unable to arrive at the session on time, must be absent for a portion or an entire day, the student must contact the director regarding the absence or tardiness ASAP. Tardiness and absences can be reported by email or phone message to the director.

TRANSPORTATION

Parents/Guardians will be responsible for getting their student to the start location each day PROMPTLY at 8 a.m. At the end of the day parents/guardians will be asked to pick up or arrange pick up at 3:30 p.m. at our last location, which will be indicated on the day agenda emailed one week prior to the day session. If a student participant has his/her driver's license she/he is welcome to drive to the session. Parking instructions for student drivers will be included in email with agenda. Note: there may be sessions when it is not possible for students to drive due to parking limitations.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA** (unweighted)
- 2. A high degree of professionalism and good behavior is expected during the program.**
- 3. Dress code:** No blue jeans and no shorts unless notified by the program director. Trousers and collared shirts that conform to traditional business casual are required attire. Ladies can wear slacks or skirts (no higher than fingertip length). Comfortable shoes- flats or low heels are preferred. The program requires a lot of walking and movement.

Please take all the requirements into consideration before applying to the program.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Student Name:

Which high school will you attend for 2019-20:

Gender:

With what race do you identify?

STUDENT HOME ADDRESS

Number & Street Name:

City:

St:

Zip:

Student Phone:

Student Email address:

(This will be the way we contact you about the program throughout the year.)

Name of Parent/Guardian:

Parent/Guardian Email address:

(Information will be sent to this email account about program sessions, orientation, graduation and any changes throughout the year.)

Parent/Guardian Emergency Phone Number:

BIOGRAPHY

Please write a **brief 8 to 10 line bio in the third person** that explains who you are and any interests you have. **This will be used in the class booklet if you are selected for the program.**

EDUCATION

Name and City of Schools (K-12) Dates of Attendance (from-to)

***Please list any special programs you were/are involved in at school (ex. Pre-engineering, STEM or Arts programs)**

I meet the 3.0 GPA (unweighted) Minimum Requirement to participate in LLYP

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/HONORS & AWARDS

Please list, in order of importance to you, up to five activities in which you are or have been involved during your high school career (school or non-school related). Examples include activities such as school bands, clubs, community service, employment, sports, arts, religious/spiritual, etc.
Please list any roles or responsibilities you had in the organization and if you were given any honors or awards for your involvement.

Organization Dates of Involvement Role/Responsibility Honors/Awards

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please use a separate sheet of paper for your responses.

- 1. Please describe a problem or issue that affects the youth of Lexington and why it is important to you. Give your recommendations for approaching and solving this problem.**
Please be specific about a local issue and limit your response to 250 words.
- 2. The Leadership Lexington Youth Program Steering Committee is looking for high school students who possess leadership characteristics. How are you a leader? Give an example of how you have displayed leadership in your school or community.**
Please limit your response to 250 words.
- 3. Working with people from different backgrounds is an important part of being a leader. What are some unique characteristics about yourself and your background?** Please limit your response to 250 words.

RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

Please print this page and provide it as a prompt for those writing a recommendation letter on your behalf.

It is a requirement for each student to turn in two recommendation letters. The letters are to be included with the application when submitted to the School Contact. Letters received after the application deadline will not be accepted. Do not include more than two recommendation letters.

Letters can be written by teachers, coaches, mentors, employers, spiritual leaders, community members, business professionals, etc. Please do not include a letter from a relative.

When selecting a recommender, please keep in mind that it is the preference of the selection committee that recommenders demonstrate that they know the applicant well in the letter.

The following are prompts for recommenders and include things the selection committee would like for recommendation letters to cover:

1. How long have you known this applicant?
2. In what capacity have you interacted with this applicant?
3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the applicant in terms of his/her community involvement and leadership potential?
4. Based on your experience with the applicant, what would you expect the applicant to contribute to the Leadership Lexington Youth Program?
5. The selection committee is looking for high school students who possess leadership characteristics. In particular, we are interested in working with students who possess some, if not most, of the following traits to a satisfactory level:
 - Cooperative Attitude
 - Maturity
 - Positive Attitude
 - Sense of Community
 - Leadership Potential
 - Mutual Trust and Respect
 - Conscientiousness
 - Self-motivation
 - Curiosity and Forward-thinking
 - Open to Networking Experiences

Please provide some examples of how the applicant has demonstrated one or more of these traits in your experience with them.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Please provide the name and relationship to the applicant of each recommender below.

1. Name: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

2. Name: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

TO GRADUATE FROM THE PROGRAM, you must participate in eight one-day sessions. Each day session will last from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Any exceptions to the schedule must be accompanied by a note from a parent/guardian in order to be excused.

Are you willing to make such a commitment? Yes _____ **No** _____

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

TUITION FEE

This 8-month program has a tuition fee of \$375 due Thursday, July 25. Scholarships may be available for students accepted into the program. Please contact Diana Wilson at 859-226-1600 to ask about assistance.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- 1. Complete and save your application.**
- 2. Submit hard copy application by March 15, 2019 to your school contact. Applications should be typed or legibly written in ink and printed on one side of the page only.**
- 3. Ensure all appropriate signatures have been acquired.**
- 4. Include reference letters. Letters should be addressed to "LLYP Committee:" and be submitted with application.**

Commerce Lexington maintains a non-discriminatory policy as an equal opportunity organization to ensure that all participants are treated equally and fairly regardless of age, race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, color, disability, or national origin.