



FAQ

Who should apply to the signature program of Leadership Gwinnett?

The Leadership Gwinnett program is designed for leaders who want to significantly increase their impact on their organization and their community. This includes senior executives, presidents and vice presidents, executive directors, business owners, and high-level directors and managers, representing all industries and business types within our region.

Ideal applicants:

- Have assumed leadership roles in the community
- Have a passion for making a difference

What are the program dates for the Class of 2027?

The following dates are set for the Class of 2027. At the time of application, it's important to commit 100% to these dates. If you know for sure you have travel or a major life event during one of the times, it's better to apply another year. The times listed below are a core portion of the program, and some days may vary slightly depending on location and activities. If selected for the class, there are attendance procedures that will allow for unplanned critical work assignments or family emergencies.

PROGRAM DATES

Orientation & Reception:	August 5, 2026	5:00 – 8:00 pm
Fall Retreat	September 18 – 20, 2026	7:30 am Friday – noon Sunday
Learning Days:	October 14, 2026	7:30 am – 6:00 pm
	November 12, 2026	7:30 am – 6:00 pm
	December 9, 2026	6:30 am – 6:00 pm
	January 13, 2027	7:30 am – 6:00 pm
	February 10, 2027	7:30 am – 6:00 pm
	March 10, 2027	7:30 am – 6:00 pm
	April 14, 2027	7:30 am – 6:00 pm
Spring Retreat	May 21 & 22, 2027	7:30 am Friday – noon Saturday

When and how do I apply?

Applications open in January 2026 and close at 5 pm on March 23, 2026. [Click here to apply](#). Please note there is a non-refundable \$25.00 application fee that is due when you submit your application. Leadership Gwinnett accepts nominations year-round on our website.

Who can nominate me?

Peers, fellow co-workers, and community partners can make nominations. Self-nominations are also encouraged. Leadership Gwinnett will send applications to all nominees between January – March.

If I applied before and I want to re-apply for the upcoming program year, do I need to complete a new application?

Yes. Topics on the application may have changed, and your information will need to be updated.

Who selects the members of the incoming class?

A confidential selection committee of ten is charged with reviewing and scoring each application. The committee submits their scores, which are compiled into one primary scoring document. During the scoring process, the first names up on the board are the highest scoring in each category. Careful attention is made to balance the class based on industry type (business, government, education, nonprofit and professional), ethnicity, and gender.

When does the selection committee meet?

The selection process takes place from late April – May.

How will I be notified about my status for the next program year?

Applicants will be notified of their status by the first week of June.

How many applicants are accepted for each program year?

The class will be made up of 48 participants.

What are some of the criteria for acceptance?

For information on what the application entails, please view our [Application Tips webpage](#) that includes helpful resources.

What is the time commitment?

Leadership Gwinnett spans a nine-month time frame. Mandatory events include an Orientation Session & Reception, a weekend opening Retreat (two-night stay is required), seven Learning Days, and a closing Retreat (one-night stay required). Additionally, a total of eight (8) Study Group discussion sessions will be held during the year with each session lasting approximately two hours during a weeknight following the Fall Retreat and each Learning Day. Homework assignments, including reading and research, as well as site visits (i.e., Principal for a Day, Water Treatment Facility Tour, Police Training Academy, etc.), may also be assigned in advance of each Learning Day to enhance subject knowledge and stimulate discussion.

What is the attendance policy?

If selected for the class, you will be made aware of an official attendance policy that allows for unplanned critical work travel/assignments or immediate family emergencies. We recognize life happens.

Are there any costs involved in the program?

Yes. If accepted into the program, there is a one-time, non-refundable tuition payment of \$3,950, which is due on July 10, 2026.

Are scholarships available?

Limited, partial scholarships are offered based on need. To apply for a partial scholarship, a [separate application](#) must be submitted by 5 pm on March 23, 2026 along with your Leadership Gwinnett application. Full details are listed on that application.

What happens after I graduate in May?

Upon completing the program year, Leadership Gwinnett graduates become alumni and are invited to join the Leadership Gwinnett Network – a community of more than 2,300 alumni and Glance Graduates offering continued opportunities to learn, connect, and stay engaged.

Should you have any additional questions, please contact Mary Kate Chapman, Leadership Gwinnett Senior Director, Programs, via phone at (770) 757-5572 or email at MKChapman@leadershipgwinnett.com.