



## Elkhart Leadership Academy

418 S. Main Street ~ P.O. Box 428

Elkhart, IN 46515

(574) 293-1531 / Fax (574) 294-1859 [www.elkhart.org](http://www.elkhart.org)

“The mission of the Elkhart Leadership Academy is to promote servant leadership through an awareness program that combines key community issues and enhanced leadership skill development to advance community stewardship.”

*“Leadership isn’t about winning. It’s about bringing people with you to the finish line.” – John C. Maxwell*

Dear Employer

Thank you for your interest in the Elkhart Leadership Academy sponsored by the Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce. Chamber member companies are invited to send an employee who has demonstrated a potential for leadership. In its 32<sup>nd</sup> year, the Elkhart Leadership Academy’s nine-month program exposes each participant to key community issues and specific leadership capacities.

Over the last 31 years, the Elkhart Leadership Academy has been successful in making participants aware of the Elkhart Community. The curriculum involves both community awareness and leadership skill development.

The first three sessions will focus on key issues facing the Elkhart Community. The next three sessions will be designed to promote skill development in the following areas: problem solving, teambuilding, conflict management, and decision-making and communication skills. The final three sessions will combine both awareness and skill development by connecting participants to organizations currently working to address community issues. Participants will be involved in a group project, with completion requirements of May 2020, as well as serve a one-year board internship with a local nonprofit organization, if they have not participated in the past or are currently involved in a board or service club responsibility.

We ask that when you consider candidates from your organization, you look for someone who has demonstrated a potential for leadership and growth.

Please carefully review, complete and return this application form to the Elkhart Chamber of Commerce by July 31, 2019.

Thank you again for your interest in the Elkhart Leadership Academy. Please contact Melissa at the Elkhart Chamber at 574-293-1531 ext. 141 or [mramey@elkhart.org](mailto:mramey@elkhart.org) if you have any questions.

Good Luck!

Brenda Kolbe, Chair  
Leadership Council

**2019-2020**  
**ELKHART LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CALENDAR**

<u>Session Date</u>	<u>Session Topic</u>
August 21, 2019	Orientation
September 11 & 12	Overnight Leadership Retreat
October 9	Servant Leadership/Board Development/Project Management
November 13	Community Within Our Communities
December 11	Problem Solving / Conflict Resolution
January 8, 2020	Government / Economics / Entrepreneurism
February 12	Ethical Decision Making /Diversity
March 11	Arts & Culture
April 8	Education
May 13	Graduation Luncheon

Leadership Academy sessions are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month.

\*This schedule is subject to change

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**Graduate Comments:**

*“The Leadership Academy helped me appreciate the different organizations that work on behalf of Elkhart citizens both to enhance our business environment and to enhance our community. It also helped instill in me the need to be involved in the community and give back to the community that has given so much to me and my family.”*

*Brian Clark, Sanders Pianowski LLP*

*“Going through the Leadership Academy has made me realize how many talented people we are blessed to have in Elkhart County. I am impressed at the dedication of our community members in making Elkhart a better place to live, raise a family and conduct business. I feel comforted in knowing the future of Elkhart County is in the hands of our local leaders.”*

*Danielle Miller, TaigMarks*

*“The Academy had me digging deep, rethinking what I thought I knew and having me look at things in a way that I never would have before. I have learned how to better use my strengths and improve my weaknesses. If you want to meet and learn from our communities’ leaders, work with the next generation of upcoming, emerging leaders...all while having a chance to learn what kind of leader you are...then the Elkhart Leadership Academy is for you!”*

*Adam M Bujalski, Interra Credit Union*

**The Greater Elkhart Chamber of Commerce  
Elkhart Leadership Academy Application  
2019-2020**

**This completed application must be returned to the  
Elkhart Chamber of Commerce by July 31, 2019**

*~Please type or print ~*

Name: Last: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Manager Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Manager E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your primary duties/responsibilities with your employer: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived in Elkhart County: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your current community involvement and volunteer work: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List someone you consider to be a leader in our community and why: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What are your expectations of the Elkhart Leadership Academy? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## TUITION

The tuition invoice will be mailed to you upon acceptance into the Elkhart Leadership Academy. Tuition is \$1100 for Chamber Members and is payable by July 31, 2019. **Payment is final. No refunds will be allowed.**

## SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship funds may be available and are limited to not-for-profit organizations. Will you need consideration for a full or partial scholarship?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_, Please explain \_\_\_\_\_

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## EMPLOYER'S AGREEMENT

Employers are in a position to recognize leadership potential. Therefore, applicants for the Elkhart Leadership Academy must have the full support and commitment of their employer because attending the overnight retreat and the subsequent eight monthly sessions is mandatory in order to successfully complete the program. The signature of the applicant's manager or head of the organization is needed below. This Leadership Academy applicant has my support for the time commitment required to actively participate in the Elkhart Leadership Academy.

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Manager's Signature

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Date

## APPLICANT'S AGREEMENT

The Elkhart Leadership Academy is a learning experience and requires a commitment of time on behalf of the participant. **Participants must have the full support and commitment of their employer because attending the overnight retreat and the subsequent eight monthly sessions is mandatory in order to successfully complete the program.** In addition, the participant will be expected to participate in a project group that will require attending meetings outside of the Academy sessions. Attendance substitution is not allowed.

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Applicant's Signature

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Date

**THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION MUST BE RETURNED TO THE  
ELKHART CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BY JULY 31, 2019**