



We open eyes, minds, and doors.

Leadership Development Initiative Application

Our Mission: Strengthening regional leadership through programs, partnerships, and connections.

Leadership Pittsburgh Inc. (LPInc). works toward a Pittsburgh region where high-impact leaders are informed about community issues, connected to regional leaders, and working across sectors to leverage sustainable, equitable solutions for Southwestern Pennsylvania to thrive.

LPInc. produces programming, partnerships, and connections through cohort-based programs, executive networking, nonprofit board matching, and a robust, cross-disciplinary, multi-generational alumni network. Selection-based programs include Leadership Pittsburgh (LP), Leadership Development Initiative (LDI), and the Community Leadership Course for Veterans™ (CLCV™). Programs address critical and timely regional topics, foster collaboration between the business and the civic sector, and position leaders as catalysts for positive change.



Program Focus

- Leadership Skills and Tools
- Community Engagement
- Network Building

Leadership Development Initiative Eligibility

- High-performing professionals who are on the path to significant influence within their organizations in business, nonprofit, government, and civic entities
- Interested in acquiring skills and knowledge that would make them stand out within their company and the community
- Looking for a leadership experience that is reality-based
- Seeking to broaden professional and personal networks
- Looking to advance their careers
- Committed to joining about 50 other high-performing professionals from every walk of life to learn and to inspire positive change in our community
- No formal “invitation” is required to initiate your application

Leadership Development Initiative Selection Timeline

First Friday in July	Applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM Online: www.lpinc.org Email: info@lpinc.org
Month of August	Selection process
Month of August	Invitations emailed to accepted applicants
September / October	Welcome Orientation & Reception (mandatory) Overnight Opening Retreat (mandatory)

Leadership Development Initiative Sessions

- Following the initial open events in September/October, sessions are held one day each month (typically on a Thursday) 1:00 – 5:00pm from October through June.
- Please refer to the program schedule for the specific timeframe of each session. The calendar for the year is available several months prior to the application deadline.
- Each session location is different.
- Credits are assigned to each session and graduation is dependent upon completion of a required number of credits (in addition to attendance at session indicated as “mandatory” on the schedule).
- In order to allow for busy professional schedules, a higher number of credits are offered than required for completion/graduation. To achieve the full benefit of the program, participants are strongly advised to attend all regularly scheduled sessions in their entirety.
- The underpinning of the LDI program year is centered around three pillars:
 - Leadership Skills and Tools
 - Community Engagement
 - Network Building

Community Impact Project

LDI participants form teams to implement a Community Impact Project in a host community. In addition to meeting a need in the community, the project provides significant learning experiences for the class members. Participants meet outside of the regularly scheduled sessions, where meeting times and locations are self-determined by the cohort themselves.

Leadership Development Initiative Tuition and Selection Facts

- Tuition is currently \$5,000 and is non-refundable. (Please note that tuition pricing is subject to change in the future.) Payment is expected only after acceptance.
- Early applications are encouraged. Incentive tuition price for applications submitted by the first Friday in June is \$4,700. All parts of the application must be complete to be considered.
- LPInc. is a nonprofit organization: Alumni and institutional donations enable us to offer partial scholarships based on need. These are intended, primarily, for participants from the nonprofit sector, especially small nonprofit organizations. To apply for tuition assistance, please request a tuition assistance form from LPInc. (info@lpinc.org) and submit it with your application. Tuition assistance requests do not impact the selection process.
- Payment plans are available upon request.
- The Leadership Development Initiative Selection Committee considers letters of recommendation in the application process. We strongly encourage each applicant to submit at least two, but no more than four, letters of recommendation. Successful applications in prior years tend to be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from the applicant's company CEO/head of business unit in addition to recommendations from other LPInc. Alumni. Our alumni directory can be accessed online at www.lpinc.org.

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Application deadline: First Friday in July

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*Fields marked * are required*

Personal Information

First Name*: _____ Last Name*: _____

Position/Job Title*: _____

Employer/Organization*: _____

Size of Company/Total # of Employees*: _____

Sector: Please indicate which option best describes your organization. *

- | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate/For Profit | <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit | <input type="checkbox"/> Public | <input type="checkbox"/> University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foundation | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

Work Address*: _____

City*: _____ State*: _____ Zip*: _____

Work Phone*: _____ Work Email*: _____

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*Fields marked * are required*

Personal contact info is optional and will be used only with your permission and/or if needed in a situation that requires us to access you.

Personal Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Personal Email: _____

The LPInc. Selection Committee strives to curate a diverse cohort based upon our applicant pool and information received. The following demographic information is not required.

Gender: _____ Age: _____ Disability: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Race/Ethnic Identification:

☐ American Indian/Alaska Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American ☐ Hispanic or Latino
☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander ☐ White ☐ Other _____

Military Status: Are you a current or former military service member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please list any current or former military service: _____

Have you previously applied to any Leadership Pittsburgh Inc. program? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Employer Agreement

As most sessions are held during normal business hours, the support of your employer/organization is imperative. The applicant is expected to ascertain this support, and completion of this section indicates the applicant has done so. The head of your business/organization may be contacted.

Supervisor/Head of Sponsoring Organization

First Name*: _____ Last Name*: _____

Position/Job Title*: _____

Business/Organization*: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone*: _____ Email*: _____

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*Fields marked * are required*

Your Leadership Development Initiative Referrer (if different from above)

Please list the individual within your network (organization/professional/personal) who has been the most influential in your decision to apply to the Leadership Development Initiative program. In the event of your acceptance into the program, this individual, along with the person listed in the Employer Agreement section above, will be extended an invitation to join you for your Welcome Orientation & Reception at the start of the program year, as well as your Commencement & Celebration at program completion.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Position/Job Title: _____

Business/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

1) Professional/Educational Background*

Please include the following information (you may attach your resume).

Professional Experience

List past and present employment highlights, including employer, job title, a brief job description, and dates of employment. Note: Should your employment status change after you have submitted your application, please call the LPInc. office at 412.392.4505 and email info@lpinc.org so that this information can be presented to the Leadership Development Initiative Selection Committee.

Educational Experience

List educational background, including active military duty, and academic awards. Include schools, dates, and degrees awarded.

Professional Activities

List, in order of importance to you, the professional activities (employer-based or professional organizations) in which you have participated. For each activity, state the nature of your participation, including leadership positions held, special recognition received, and the dates of your involvement.

2) Community Involvement*

List community activities in which you have participated. These may include activities related to or as an outgrowth of your employer-based profession or organization. List current and past activities separately. For each activity, indicate the nature of your participation, including any leadership positions you held, any special awards/recognition that you received, and the dates of your involvement.

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*Fields marked * are required*

3) Personal Insights*

Please answer each of the following questions within the requested word limits:

1. Tell us about an experience or situation in which you assumed a leadership role. What prompted your role as a leader, what actions did you take, and what were the results of those actions? (500 – 1000 word limit)
2. What is the one major issue facing your community/neighborhood that you, personally, are concerned about? What action steps have you personally taken to get involved with making a change or what ideas do you have on potential action steps which can be taken to improve the situation? (500 – 1000 word limit)
3. Describe one life experience that had a significant effect on your personal development. (500 – 1000 word limit)

Note: To best support your application, your writing should not include any use of generative artificial intelligence (AI).

4) Letters of Recommendation

The Leadership Development Initiative Selection Committee considers letters of recommendation in the application process. We strongly encourage each applicant to submit at least two, but no more than four, letters of recommendation. Successful applications in prior years tend to be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from the applicant's CEO/head of business unit, as well as LPInc. Alumni. Our alumni directory can be accessed online at www.lpinc.org.

Recommendations are due to the LPInc. office by 5:00 PM on the First Friday of July. These can be submitted along with your application, emailed to info@lpinc.org, or completed through our [online recommendation link](#).

Please list the individuals whom you have asked to submit a letter of recommendation on your behalf.*

5) How did you learn of Leadership Pittsburgh Inc. (LPInc.)? Please select one or more.*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brochure or marketing materials | <input type="checkbox"/> News story (TV, newspaper, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community event | <input type="checkbox"/> Online or social media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email from LPInc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Referred by family, friend, or program graduate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LPInc. team | <input type="checkbox"/> Suggested by employer/colleague |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LPInc. program or event | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LPInc. website | |

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*Fields marked * are required*

6) References*

Please list the contact information of two individuals who can attest to your leadership capabilities. These can be, but are not required to be, the same individuals you have asked to provide a letter of recommendation.

Reference #1 Name: _____

Business/Organization: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Reference #2 Name: _____

Business/Organization: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Additionally, please list the names of any alumni of Leadership Pittsburgh Inc. programs who you know. Our alumni directory can be accessed online at www.lpinc.org. Any of these individuals may be contacted.

7) Acknowledgment of Program Schedule*

The schedule for the upcoming program year can be found at the end of this application and [on our website](#). Prior to submitting your application, please review this schedule and ensure that you are currently able to attend the **two mandatory sessions** at the start of the program year (Welcome Orientation & Reception and Opening Retreat) as well as the majority of the sessions listed on the schedule so that you can earn the required amount of credits to graduate.

Please **initial in the box below** to indicate that:

- 1) You have reviewed the schedule to ensure you can actively participate in the LDI program. This includes your full attendance at the mandatory opening events – the Welcome Orientation & Reception and Opening Retreat.
- 2) If your availability changes at any time, you agree to make the LPInc. team aware and understand that this may impact your ability to continue participation in the program.

2026-2027 Schedule

Session	Date Time	Credits
Welcome Orientation & Reception	Tuesday, September 22, 2026 5:30 – 8:00 PM	Mandatory
Leadership Retreat	Thursday, October 1, 2026 9:00 AM through Friday, October 2, 2026, 3:00 PM	Mandatory
Session 1	Thursday, October 15, 2026 1:00 – 5:00 PM	3
Session 2	Thursday, November 5, 2026 3:00 – 8:00 PM	4
Session 3	Thursday, December 10, 2026 1:00 – 5:00 PM	3
Session 4	Thursday, January 21, 2027 1:00 – 5:00 PM	3
Session 5	Thursday, February 18, 2027 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	4
Session 6	Thursday, March 11, 2027 1:00 – 5:00 PM	3
Session 7	Thursday, April 1, 2027 1:00 – 5:00 PM	3
Session 8	Thursday, May 6, 2027 1:00 – 6:00 PM	4
<i>Hold: Session Make-up Date *</i>	<i>Thursday, May 13, 2027 1:00 – 5:00 PM</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Community Impact Project	TBD by the Cohort Needs to be completed before May 26, 2027	5
Session 9	Wednesday, May 26, 2027 3:00 – 8:00 PM	4
Commencement & Celebration	Wednesday, June 9, 2027 2:30 – 8:30 PM	3

To successfully graduate from LDI XXXIV, participants must:

- Attend the mandatory Welcome Orientation & Reception
- Attend the mandatory Leadership Retreat
- Accumulate 34 credits through attendance and participation in sessions (in order to earn the full credit for each session, participants must complete the post-session survey)
- Ensure payment of tuition in full by December 31, 2026
- Fully participate in the Community Impact Project

Additional learning/extra credit opportunities:

Community Service Opportunities	Due by May 31, 2027	Up to 3 credits
Community Leader Interviews	Due by May 31, 2027	Up to 3 credits

Important: You are expected to attend all scheduled program sessions. If you cannot attend, please notify us at least 48 hours in advance. LPInc. makes efforts to schedule around major religious holidays. If you need to miss a session for this reason, we will accommodate participants individually as needed. For illness or emergencies, please inform us as soon as possible. Last-minute absences can disrupt planning and session logistics, so we appreciate your full communication.

**Please note we are asking you to hold a date for a make-up session in case of cancellation of a previously scheduled session due to weather or unforeseen circumstances. Attendance at the make-up session is required to meet program requirements and ensure full participation in the LDI experience. Credits will be applied accordingly.*

Schedule is current as of January 2026 and is expected to stand. Session locations will be provided with ample notification.