



LEADERSHIP *Rockdale*

Application Packet



LEADERSHIP *Rockdale*

APPLICATION

Leadership Rockdale is a twelve-month program designed to identify potential leaders and develop within these individuals the knowledge, skills, and vision necessary to enable them to actively participate in efforts to improve the community. The program explains the essential roles of the local government, economic, and cultural organizations. It also will provide foundational knowledge on public governance and leadership principles. Finally, the program will encourage participants to explore options for community involvement and relationship building.

Program tuition is \$350 per participant, payable upon acceptance into the program.

Name:	
Preferred Name:	

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Employer:			
Position:			
Address			
Phone:		Email:	

PERSONAL DATA

Address			
Phone:		Email:	
Cell		Birthday:	

COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES

Work Email	Personal Email	Work Phone	Cell Phone

PROGRAM AWARENESS AND PERSONAL GROWTH

What do you feel are the three most significant problems facing Rockdale today?
1.
2.
3.

What do you feel needs to be done about one of these problems?

What do you feel are the three most notable opportunities for Rockdale today?
1.
2.
3.

What can be done to develop one of these opportunities?

Have you ever taken a personality profile test?	Yes	No
If YES, then which one, and what is your personality type?		

What do you hope to gain from your participation in the program?
1.
2.
3.

In what areas are you willing to serve in a community leadership role. Place an X by all that interest you					
Rockdale City Council		Rockdale Chamber Board		Rockdale Municipal Development District	
1895 Preservation Foundation		Rockdale Library Board		Rockdale Planning & Zoning Commission	
Rockdale School Board		Rockdale Building Standards Board		Rockdale School Committees	

By signing this form I agree to all the Leadership Rockdale policies and procedures, and that all information included in this application is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant signature

Date



**LEADERSHIP ROCKDALE
COMMITMENT STATEMENT**

(Please initial each item to acknowledge requirement and sign below)

I agree to the following guidelines for Leadership Rockdale. I understand that to graduate from Leadership Rockdale, I must:

	Attend all day-long (9 am to 3 pm) sessions. Each participant is allowed one excused absence.
	Read the assigned leadership books and participate in the discussions. Each participant is allowed one excused absence in the book discussion.
	Attend the Meet the Class and Get Acquainted Reception.
	Complete outside assignments, i.e. observing a community activity, attending a Governing Body meeting (Rockdale City Council, Milam County Commissioners Court, Rockdale ISD).
	Actively participate in the Class Group Project (to be determined by the Class).

I have cleared my calendar to participate in the 2022-2023 Leadership Rockdale program. I commit to attending the opening reception and all seminars. If applicable, I have my employer’s support as indicated below. If selected, I will devote the time and resources necessary to complete the program. Even though emergencies arise, I understand that missing more than two sessions may result in my withdrawal from the program.

Applicant signature

Date

This application has the approval of this organization. The applicant has employer full support which includes the time required to participate in the program. If applicant leaves this company’s employment, it is understood that the tuition fee is non-refundable.

Employer signature

Date



PARTICIPANT PROFILE CONSENT FORM

Select from the following options

_____ I hereby grant full permission to Leadership Rockdale to use my photo and profile information from the Leadership Rockdale application in any publication or advertising materials (printed or electronic). This consent also serves to waive all rights of privacy or compensation which I may have in connection with the use of my photography or profile information.

_____ Please do not use my photograph in any publication or advertising materials.

_____ Please do not use my profile information from the Leadership Rockdale application in any publication or advertising materials.

Applicant signature

Date

Applications will be accepted beginning on April 25, 2022. Application deadline is May 9, 2022. Selected applicants will be notified May 16, 2022.

RETURN APPLICATION TO OR CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

Rockdale Chamber of Commerce
1203 W. Cameron Ave.
Rockdale, TX 76567
512/446-2030
info@rockdalechamber.com



LEADERSHIP Rockdale

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. Program Statement of Purpose

Leadership Rockdale is a twelve month program designed to identify potential leaders and develop within these individuals the knowledge, skills, and vision necessary to enable them to actively participate in efforts to improve the community. The program explains the essential roles of the local government, economic, and cultural organizations. It also will provide foundational knowledge on public governance and leadership principles. Finally, the program will encourage participants to explore options for community involvement and relationship building.

2. General Policy

The Rockdale Municipal Development District and Rockdale Chamber of Commerce shall administer the Leadership Rockdale program within these general policies and guidelines. The program will be made available to applicants meeting the requirements established. Qualified applicants who meet the requirements are selected on a “first come” basis with Rockdale residency having priority.

3. Applicant Qualifications

- Applicants must be at least 21 years old by the Meet and Greet Reception
- Must live and/or work in Rockdale, Texas
- Must demonstrate high moral character and financial responsibility
- Must desire to participate in the program with enthusiasm and with the appropriate goal of developing as a leader, growing in their organization, and giving back to the community
- Must obtain appropriate approvals where the applicant is employed
- Secure payment of the required tuition fee (\$350 per applicant) to the Rockdale Chamber of Commerce. Tuition must be paid in full BEFORE the Meet and Greet Reception. Failure to pay will result in the removal of the applicant from the program. For good cause, the

Chamber Director may authorize an extension, if he/she is confident the applicant has the financial capability to pay

4. Application Policy/Procedures

- The Rockdale MDD and Chamber shall announce the enrollment period by media, newsletter, on the MDD and Chamber websites, and other means as necessary. The news release shall clearly set forth the dates that applications will be accepted and the deadline.
- Applicants for the Leadership Rockdale program must apply in writing on the application form. The forms will be available at the Rockdale Chamber of Commerce office at 1203 W. Cameron Ave, Rockdale, Texas; and the Rockdale MDD office at 134 N. Main St., Rockdale, Texas, and on RockdaleMDD.org and RockdaleChamber.com
- Applications will be completed in full, in order to be considered. Applications will not be accepted after the deadline unless the deadline is extended by the Rockdale MDD and Chamber of Commerce.
- Applicants should verify that they are available for all the scheduled Leadership Rockdale sessions and activities prior to applying.
- If a conflict with the Leadership calendar should arise after the application is submitted, applicant should immediately contact the Chamber.

5. Selection Process

- Rockdale MDD and Rockdale Chamber of Commerce staff will review the applications for completion and verify their qualifications for participation in the program.
- Each class will be capped at 20 qualified applicants. Rockdale residents will have priority over non-residents.
- Spouses will not be allowed in the same year's class.
- Applicants selected and approved for the class, as well as applicants not selected, will be notified in writing.

6. Program Policies

- Participants are required to attend all class sessions. Only two sessions (one all day session and one book review session) may be missed without penalty.
- Attendance at the Meet and Greet Reception is mandatory.
- Each Leadership Rockdale class shall choose, as a group, a civic/community service project. Active participation in the group project is mandatory.
- Participants will need to notify the Chamber if they will need to miss part of a day or leave early.
- Participants are required to attend a Governing Body meeting prior to graduation.: Rockdale City Council, Milam County Commissioners Court, Rockdale Municipal Development District, or Rockdale ISD.
- Participants will be required to assist with the next Leadership Rockdale program.
- If a participant changes employment during the program year, he or she will be required to provide signed documentation by the new employer giving approval for the participant to be absent from work to complete the requirements of the Leadership program.



LEADERSHIP Rockdale

SESSION SCHEDULE

Session	Proposed Date	Topic	Speaker/Facilitator	Location
	May 2022	Meet the Class and Orientation Dinner		TBD Restaurant
1	June 8, 2022	Identifying Your Leadership Style	Dr. Andrew Loring Texas A&M	MDD office
2	July 13, 2022	Getting to Know the Community. Rockdale history, City Government and County Government. Chamber of Commerce	Milam Co. Historical Commission Mayor King and Barbara Holly Judge Steve Young Chamber of Commerce	MDD office
3	August 10, 2022	Book Session 1 – The Wisdom of Walt		TBD Restaurant
4	September 14, 2022	What is Economic Development?	Texas Rural Leaders Program	MDD office
5	October 26, 2022	Book Session 2		TBD Restaurant
6	November 9, 2022	Communicate within the Community	Texas Rural Leaders Program	MDD office
7	December 14, 2022	Civic Pride	Sarah O'Brien	MDD office

8	January 11, 2023	Book Session 3		TBD Restaurant
9	February 8, 2023	Community Tour	Tour City Parks, Schools, Police Station, Water and Wastewater Plants	Meet at the MDD office. Ride around town in guided tour.
10	March 8, 2023	Capstone Project Planning Session		MDD office
11	April 2023	Graduation Session at Chamber Banquet		

LEADERSHIP Rockdale

Session Details

Orientation Dinner

Date: May 2022

The group will gather one evening at a local restaurant for a dinner to meet each other and review the program.

Session 1 – Identifying Your Leadership Style

Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022

Participants will take the Clifton Strengths Finder Assessment prior to the class session and bring their results. Texas A&M Mays Business School professor Dr. Andrew Loring will introduce the group to the Strengths Finder and Emotional Intelligence. The group will understand team dynamics and how to apply their strengths to leadership and decision making.

Session 2 – Getting to Know the Community

Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2022

The Milam County Historical Commission will speak on Rockdale's history. The Mayor and City Manager will then speak about City government and the roles and functions of the City. County Judge Steve Young will speak on County government. Finally, the Chamber of Commerce will describe its role in the community. The goal of this session is for participants to learn more about how local institutions operate and function.

Session 3 – Book Session 1. *The Wisdom of Walt*

Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2022

The group will meet at a local restaurant over lunch to discuss concepts from *The Wisdom of Walt*. Walt Disney is renowned as an innovator and creative thinker. The author applies some of the concepts from Walt Disney's life to how we should approach management, leadership, and our own lives.

Session 4 – What is Economic Development?

Date: Wednesday September 14, 2022

We may think we know what economic development is, but the truth is much more nuanced. The goal for this session is for everyone to know that we can all play a part in community economic development. The Texas Rural Leaders Program is a program run through the Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension Program. Dr. Craig Rotter from the Rural Leadership Program will be the speaker for this event.

Session 5 – Book Session 2. TBD

Date: Wednesday October 26, 2022

Session 6 – Communicate within the Community

Date: Wednesday November 9, 2022

The Texas Rural Leadership Program will return to Rockdale for this communication workshop. They will facilitate a one-day workshop for us over the following topics: Group dynamics, deliberative dialogue, building trust and shared vision, clear and open communication, leadership competencies, and systems thinking. The goal of this session is for everyone to learn how to be a better communicator both in the community and in our individual organizations.

Session 7 – Civic Pride

Date: Wednesday December 14, 2022

How a community looks speaks volumes about the people who live there. A community, just like a home or a business, is not going to take care of itself. The future of local businesses are intertwined with the future of the community. In this session, Sarah O'Brien, an expert in downtown placemaking, will talk with the group about the importance of civic pride and how local businesses can help the community with its appearance. This will, in turn, help local businesses to prosper.

Session 8 – Book Session 3. TBD

Date: Wednesday January 11, 2023

Session 9 – Community Tour

Date: Wednesday February 8, 2023

Building upon Session 2, the group will take a tour of community facilities. We will visit the Rockdale Police Department, Fire Station, City parks, the Water and Wastewater plants, and some of the school campuses. There may even be a surprise stop along the way. The group will have an opportunity to meet some of the community staff who directly work to make Rockdale great.

Session 10 – Capstone Project Planning Session

Date: Wednesday March 8, 2023

One of the program requirements is for the class to complete a community project. In this planning session, the group will pull all the lessons learned to create a community service project. The group will need to work together to identify a particular project, coordinate how the project will be done, how to secure funding for the project. On their own time, the group will execute the project.

Session 11 – Graduation

Date: April Chamber Banquet

Graduates will be recognized at the 2023 Chamber banquet and be presented with a plaque.

Possible Books to Read

The Disruption Mindset by Charlene Li. <https://www.charleneli.com/disruption-mindset/>

It's Your Ship: Leadership Lessons from the Best Damn Ship in the Navy by Capt. Jack Abrashoff

Good to Great by Jim Collins. <https://www.jimcollins.com/>

Leading Change by John P. Kotter

The Leadership Challenge by Kouzes and Posner