



LEADERSHIP SAMPSON 2026-2027

OVERVIEW:

Leadership Sampson is a leadership development program organized by the Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce. The program is designed to provide leaders with broad exposure to issues and opportunities facing Sampson County, as well as meet our need for the active involvement of diverse, informed & responsible community leaders. Leadership Sampson meets monthly for full-day sessions.

The mission of Leadership Sampson is to provide a continuous, diverse supply of creative leaders to the county by developing their knowledge of the community and by providing them with the opportunity for meaningful action.

Lunch:

Each program day, lunch will have been planned and provided by the Chamber Leadership Steering Committee. We are so grateful to have many partners throughout the county that help make this program a success.

AREAS OF FOCUS

HISTORY & CULTURE

Agriculture

Law & Order

Military

Local Government

State Government

Manufacturing & Industry

Health & Wellness



LEADERSHIP SAMPSON 2026-2027

ADVANCING COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

INSTRUCTIONS:

Type or print in black ink. Please complete each section in full. Limit answers to the space provided. The application must be signed by the candidate and the employer (where applicable). Completed applications can be mailed, e-mailed, faxed, or dropped off at the Chamber office.

Clinton Sampson Chamber of Commerce 414 Warsaw Road
P.O. Box 467, Clinton, NC 28329
Fax: 910-592-5770

Email: info@clintonsampsonchamber.org

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Chamber office at 910-592-6177.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Participation in Leadership Sampson is open to persons living in or with interests in Sampson County. Because the number of appointments to the program is limited, applicants who are not selected are encouraged to reapply in subsequent years.

Participants will be chosen based upon the information provided in the application and will be selected after consideration of their leadership achievements, community involvement, overall accomplishments, recommendations, and ability to assume expanded community responsibility. In order to reflect the diversity of the community, the committee will seek representation from those active in areas of business, education, the arts, religion, government, community-based organizations, and ethnic and minority groups.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Leadership Sampson requires a serious commitment of time. Candidates must have the full support of the organization and/or business they represent. Attendance of sessions is mandatory. All program days will take place from 9am-4pm, with the exception of Orientation and Graduation. Absences due to extenuating circumstances (i.e., sickness or death in the family) may be excused no more than twice in any program year. Participants will be dropped from the program after two missed sessions, and **NO REFUND** of tuition will be issued.



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CONFIDENTIAL APPLICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Home Address: _____
(Street or P.O. Box) (City) (State) (Zip)

Employer: _____

Business Mailing Address: _____
(Street or P.O. Box) (City) (State) (Zip)

Phone: _____
(Home) (Cell) (Business) (Fax)

Email: _____
(Please note that all communication with Leadership Sampson will be done through email)

If Resident of Sampson County, Length of Residency: _____

Spouses Name, if married: _____

The following information is optional but will help assure a diverse class.

Male: ____ Female: ____ Age: ____ Race: ____



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EDUCATION:

	School Name/Location	Years To/From	Degree	Major
High School				
College				
College				
Graduate				

EMPLOYMENT:

Present Employer: _____

Title: _____ Years Employed: _____

Briefly describe your job responsibilities/duties:

Business and Professional Affiliations (not including civic organizations or political activities):

Name of Group	Position	Dates To/From



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GENERAL INFORMATION:

Please write a statement of purpose indicating why you want to be a member of Leadership Sampson, what you hope to receive from the program and what you expect to contribute to Sampson County.

What do you think are the three most pressing problems facing Sampson County today?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What recommendations would you have to meet one of the above problems?

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

List, in order of importance to you, present and past community, civic, religious, political, athletic, or social activities:

Organization: _____

Dates: _____ Position/Assignment: _____

Description of Involvement/Responsibilities:



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Organization: _____

Dates: _____ Position/Assignment: _____

Description of Involvement/Responsibilities:

Organization: _____

Dates: _____ Position/Assignment: _____

Description of Involvement/Responsibilities:

If you have additional significant areas of active community involvement, please list them below:

What do you consider your most important accomplishments in community or civic activities and why?

What kinds of volunteer activities would you like to become active with in the future?



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REFERENCES:

Please list two people, other than your sponsor/employer, who are knowledgeable about your leadership performance and potential.

Name	Title	Company	Phone/Email

TUITION:

Tuition for Leadership Sampson is \$700 for Chamber members and \$850 for non-Chamber members. The tuition fee covers all program costs, including expenses for classes, speakers, breaks, refreshments, materials, transportation, and graduation event.

Tuition is paid by (please check one of the following):

Employer: _____ Participant: _____ Other (specify): _____

PARTICIPATION:

Leadership Sampson will consist of monthly, full-day sessions. Additional hours may be required for other learning and volunteer opportunities.

To successfully complete the Leadership Sampson program, participants are expected to attend all sessions (see attendance policy). A participant who is unable to attend all sessions may be asked to withdraw from the program. In such cases, no portion of the tuition will be refunded. Because of the time commitment, it is important that an applicant has the full support of his/her employer to attend all sessions.

I understand the goals and objectives of the Leadership Sampson program. I understand that participation in all Leadership Sampson sessions is mandatory, and I am willing to devote the time to this program as described in the preceding paragraph.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Employer Signature: _____ Date: _____



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SCHEDULE:

LEADERSHIP SAMPSON 26-2027	DATE
Orientation	10/7/2026
History & Culture	10/28/2026
Agriculture	11/18/2026
Law & Order	12/9/2026
Military	1/13/2027
Local Government	2/3/2027
State Government	2/24/2027
Manufacturing & Industry	3/10/2027
Health & Wellness	3/31/2027
Graduation	4/14/2027

Schedule is subject to change

Applications are due by August 31st, 2026, and should be turned in via email to info@clintonsampsonchamber.org, dropped off at the Chamber office, or mailed to PO Box 467, Clinton, NC. Applications will be reviewed as soon as they are received, with selections made in the first week of September. Chamber staff will reach out whether accepted or denied. Only limited spots are available.

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