

# FORT BEND

## LEADERSHIP FORUM

Dear Leadership Forum 2019 Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Fort Bend Leadership Forum, a program organized in 1987 under the direction of the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce. This program is designed to nurture and engage the leadership skills of potential and current leaders by providing an atmosphere that stimulates and fosters diverse viewpoints, resulting in innovative answers to the critical questions facing our community. The program strives to create awareness and to connect leaders with issues; it is not an academic leadership training program. Fort Bend Leadership Forum includes community immersion, leadership training, and educating participants in "how things work" in our community and our county.

The Fort Bend Leadership Forum offers learning opportunities in an atmosphere that stimulates creative thinking and encourages participants to work together to utilize both new and proven tools to meet the challenges of today and to prepare for tomorrow.

Fort Bend Leadership Forum is designed to provide the participant:

- An awareness of community needs, challenges and opportunities, and
- An opportunity to promote and establish relationships and share resources with other community volunteers and leaders, and
- The challenge to examine, practice and develop leadership skills and techniques

The Fort Bend Leadership Forum is a ten-month program, August through May exclusively offered to members of the Fort Bend Chamber. The sessions start with a one and one-half day opening retreat in San Antonio. The opening retreat is followed by five one-day sessions covering criminal justice, diversity, economic development/infrastructure, health and social services, municipal/county government, and a two-day trip to Austin for the state government session. In addition, the class will participate in a special three-day national government session in Washington D.C. The Leadership program is completed with a one and one-half day ending retreat and graduation ceremony in Galveston.

The success of each Fort Bend Leadership Forum class lies in the commitment of each participant not only to the program but also to the class as a whole. Therefore, participation and attendance at each session is essential.

Participants missing any of the following will be unable to continue enrollment or graduate from the program:

- Any portion of the Opening Retreat, State Government, Ending Retreat or National Government in Washington D.C.
- More than two one-day sessions or 16 total hours

Class sessions are generally scheduled on the second Wednesday of each month. A tentative schedule of program dates is enclosed. Tuition for the ten-month program is \$2,700 for Fort Bend Chamber members who submit the application before May 4, 2018. All applications that are received after May 4, 2018 will be \$3,000. The tuition covers all expenses for the program including transportation, accommodations and meals for all sessions including San Antonio, Austin, Washington D.C. and Galveston.

Completion of the enclosed application is an important part of the selection process. A selection committee will review each application for the Fort Bend Leadership Forum with acceptances beginning in April and the completed class confirmed by July. It is important to complete and submit your application via mail, fax, email [matthew@fortbendcc.org](mailto:matthew@fortbendcc.org) or drop off to the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce as soon as you have made the decision to apply. Each year more applicants apply than can be accepted, so please complete and return your application as soon as possible so that it may be placed in consideration for the Class of 2019. Tuition is due in full within sixty days of receiving acceptance notice or before July 20, 2018, whichever comes first.

Sincerely,



Keri Schmidt  
President  
Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce

Enclosures

Title Sponsor

**Audi**

**Sugar Land**

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**A SEWELL COMPANY**



**IV. PARTICIPANT GOALS**

List civic, professional, religious and other organizations in which you have been actively involved (in order of their value to you) during the past five years.

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**V. PARTICIPANT GOALS**

What would you like to gain from the Leadership experience?

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Why do you want to participate in the Leadership program?

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**VI. APPLICANT AGREEMENT**

*Tuition & Funding:* If accepted into the Fort Bend Leadership Forum, you or your company, if members, will be billed \$2,700 for the tuition fee if registered before May 4, 2018. This covers all costs. Members that register after May 4, 2018 will be billed \$3,000 for the tuition fee. Tuition is due in full by July 20, 2018. ***Withdrawal from the program at any time, for any reason, will not create cause for return of any portion of the tuition paid. I have completely answered each of the application questions, and to the best of my knowledge, the answers to the forgoing questions are true and correct.***

**I understand that the Fort Bend Leadership Forum has a mandatory attendance requirement. To graduate, I cannot miss more than sixteen (16) hours total from any sessions or ANY PORTION of Opening Retreat, Austin, Ending Retreat or Washington D.C. Hours missed in each session including time not focused in the session will count as hours absent. If I do not meet the attendance requirements, I will not be able to continue with class or attend graduation.**

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Applicant's Signature

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Date

This applicant has the full approval of this firm/organization in the participation in this program and understand the attendance requirements to complete and graduate from the program.

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Employer's Signature

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Date

Application may be turned in via mail, fax, email Matthew@fortbendcc.org or dropped off at the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce.



**Class of 2019  
Schedule of Sessions**

**2018**

Wednesday, <b>Aug 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Class of 2018 Reception
Thursday, <b>Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Opening Retreat - San Antonio
Wednesday, <b>Sept 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Understanding Differences
Wednesday, <b>Oct 17<sup>th</sup></b>	Municipal/County Government
Wednesday, <b>Nov 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Infrastructure
Wednesday, <b>Dec 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Education

**2019**

Wednesday, <b>Jan 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Criminal/Judicial
Thursday, <b>Feb 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	State Government - Austin
Spring 2019	Alumni Reunion
Wednesday, <b>Mar 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Health & Social Services
Wednesday, <b>May 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	National Government - Washington DC
Thursday, <b>May 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Ending Retreat - Galveston