



# CALLAWAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## LEADERSHIP CALLAWAY

Cohort of 2026 Application

### Program Schedule

August 28	Orientation
September 18	Past, Present, & Future
October 16	Local Government, Police, and Fire
November 20	Education
December 11	Community Outreach
January 15	Economic Development & Entrepreneurship
February 19	State Government
March 19	Healthcare & Major Employers
April 16	Closing Session
TBD	Commencement

**Application Instructions:**

- Your completed application will consist of:
  1. Pages 1-5 (please do not send back the program schedule or this page, they may be kept for reference)
  2. A typed explanation (up to one page) of what you hope to gain from participating in Leadership Callaway County and what you believe you could give back to your community as a graduate of the program, and
  3. Two letters of recommendation from sources who have observed your leadership skills or potential
- Please type or clearly print your answers in black ink. This application is also available at [www.callawaychamber.net](http://www.callawaychamber.net)
- Limit answers to available space if possible. Additional pages may be attached.
- Both the applicant and the applicant's employer or supervisor, if applicable, must sign the application and commitment to the attendance policy.
- The application, letters of reference and any other attachments must be postmarked no later than April 18, 2025.
- The Leadership Callaway Cohort of 2026 Reveal will take place on May 14, 2025, beginning at 5 pm in conjunction with the Leadership Callaway Cohort of 2025 graduation.

**Letters of Reference:**

Two letters of reference are required from sources who have observed your leadership skills or potential.

You may attach your reference letters to your application or have them mailed or e-mailed separately by their authors to [businessrelations@callawaychamber.net](mailto:businessrelations@callawaychamber.net)

Leadership Callaway  
c/o Callaway Chamber of Commerce  
510 Market Street  
Fulton, MO 65251

## Leadership Callaway Cohort of 2026 Application

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My application includes:

- Pages 1-5, completed
- A typed explanation of what I hope to gain from participating in Leadership Callaway and how I will be able to contribute to the community as a graduate of the program.
- Two Letters of Reference
- Short Bio and Head Shot (these will be used to announce the cohort in the newspaper, social media, and the cohort reveal in June)

I have: (please check each box)

- Read the Attendance Requirements and Selection Criteria
- Read and signed the Participant Commitment and Pledge

My employer or supervisor (if applicable) has:

- Signed the Employer's Commitment

### **Attendance Requirements**

Attendance is required at all 10-regular full-day sessions, orientation and the closing session in April. Additional projects may be assigned. Even though emergencies do arise, any participant missing more than four half-days will automatically be dropped from the program and no portion of the tuition will be refunded. Missing any portion of a half-day will be considered a half-day absence. In order to gain full benefit from the program, participants must attend the August Orientation and the April closing session. Those who are unable to attend should delay their application until the following year.

Session hours may vary slightly, normally the days begin at 8 a.m. and end by 4:00 p.m.

### **Selection Criteria**

The goal of Leadership Callaway is to identify existing or new leaders in the community who can assume a leadership role in determining the future of Callaway County. The program is targeted for individuals who are already recognized for their leadership potential.

The Selection Committee will objectively evaluate each applicant's leadership potential, sphere of influence, and demonstrated or expressed interest for constructive involvement in community affairs. The following will be considered in evaluating each applicant.

- Applicant's previous and current involvement in Callaway County
- Applicant's involvement in his/her own sponsoring business or organization
- Leadership potential
- Motivation/Attitude
- Education/Training
- Career Background/Work Experience

- Special Consideration (estimated time available for community work, potential for contribution to the community, representation of previously unrepresented segment of the community, ability to help create a more diverse class)

***Cohort size is limited to 15 participants. Applicants are encouraged to reapply if not selected for this year's class.***

**ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIDENTIAL EVALUATION- COHORT 2026**

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Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial
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Business Address	City/State	Zip
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Home Address	City/State	Zip
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Home Telephone	Business Telephone	Cell Phone
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Email Address

Other information about you that would add to the diversity of the cohort (Please free to use an additional sheet of paper if needed):

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**Employment/Vocation**

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Present Employer	Date of Employment
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Present Title or Responsibility	Effective Date
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Previous Employment: ***Begin with the most recent; account for all periods, including active military duty***

<b><i>Employer</i></b>	<b><i>Title/Responsibility</i></b>	<b><i>From</i></b>	<b><i>To</i></b>

**Education**

Begin with high school and include college(s), business or trade schools, and/or specialized training.

Name and Location	Dates Attended	Degrees	Major

**Community Activities**

List civic, business, religious, social, and other organizations in which you have been involved during the past 10 years.

Organization	Dates: From-To	Office/Position Held	Year(s) Position Held

What have you accomplished in these community activities that you think are important?

Special Recognition for Leadership Activities:

## Participant Commitment and Pledge

Leadership Callaway is designed to be a learning experience and requires the following commitment on the part of the participant:

1. I fully understand the Attendance Requirements printed on page 1.
2. I understand that there will be some activities in addition to the regular sessions (independent activities, meetings, tours, interviews, etc.) at which all participants will be expected to participate.
3. I understand that the tuition is \$650.
4. I understand that the full amount of tuition is due to the Callaway Chamber of Commerce office no later than August 28, 2025.
5. If selected, I will not use content from the sessions or statements made therein for the purpose of news coverage.
6. If selected, I will not use the name of Leadership Callaway or Callaway Chamber of Commerce in a political campaign to imply endorsement by Leadership Callaway.

Applicant's Signature:

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## Employer's Commitment

An employer must fully support an applicant in his/her participation in the program. Please have your employer or supervisor (if applicable) sign the following commitment.

This application has the approval of this firm, and the applicant has our full support, which includes the time required to participate in the program.

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Signature

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Company/Organization

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Title