



LEADERSHIP
COACHELLA VALLEY

2026 - 2027 Application Packet



Palm Springs
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Let's set the stage for an unforgettable year in Leadership Coachella Valley. This section gives you a clear picture of how the program works, what's expected, and how you'll grow—personally, professionally, and as a community leader.

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Take a look ahead—this section outlines all scheduled sessions, so you can plan with confidence and stay fully engaged throughout the year.

Application Checklist 6

Stay on track and make sure nothing gets missed. This quick checklist helps you complete your application with confidence and ease.

Application 6

Ready to take the leap? Use this clickable or scannable link when you're ready to submit your application—designed for your convenience, whenever the time feels right.



Program Overview

At Leadership Coachella Valley, we believe the future of our region depends on identifying and equipping individuals who are ready to step up, lead with purpose, and make a lasting impact. This 10-month program is a launchpad for emerging and established leaders alike. Through immersive experiences, open dialogue, and direct engagement with local changemakers, participants gain a deep understanding of the Coachella Valley's most pressing issues—from infrastructure and housing to education, health care, and beyond.

Objectives

Participants in the Leadership Coachella Valley program will:

- Grow in awareness and understanding of the issues and challenges facing the Coachella Valley
- Gain valuable contacts and build lasting professional networks within the community
- Engage in open, balanced discussions with current community leaders across a variety of sectors
- Develop both personal and professional leadership skills through interactive forums and real-world experiences
- Become part of an active, involved alumni network dedicated to improving the Coachella Valley

Most importantly, Leadership Coachella Valley participants emerge as more informed, connected, and empowered individuals—ready to lead and help shape the future of our region.

Curriculum

From September through June, participants gather once a month for immersive, all-day seminars focused on the most vital topics shaping the Coachella Valley. Each session blends presentations, panel discussions, and site visits to locations tied to the day's theme—offering a hands-on look at the systems, people, and places that keep our region running. Community leaders and subject-matter experts share their perspectives and engage in meaningful dialogue with participants throughout the day.

Time Commitment

Leadership Coachella Valley is a significant time investment, and we ask that all applicants are fully aware of the program's expectations—and have the support of their employer or organization—before applying.

Active participation is essential to the experience, and we strongly encourage attendance at every session. **The Welcome Reception (September 15), Session 1 (September 18), and the Class Project Experience (February 27) are mandatory and required for participation and graduation.**

If a participant must miss a session, we ask that they notify the Leadership Coachella Valley Administrator as early as possible. **Absence of more than two sessions (or 16 hours total)** will be subject to discussion between the participant, their employer, and program leadership to determine eligibility for graduation. Additionally, if a participant is **late by one hour or more on two separate occasions**, it may be counted as one full-day absence toward the attendance policy.

Applicant Requirements

We're looking for individuals who are committed to growing as leaders and actively shaping the future of the Coachella Valley. Ideal candidates will:

- Live and/or work in the Coachella Valley
- Demonstrate a record of community or civic involvement—or a desire to become more engaged
- Exhibit leadership potential or experience in their professional or volunteer roles
- Display strong interpersonal skills and a proactive mindset when it comes to community concerns
- Intend to remain in the Coachella Valley in the immediate future
- Be prepared to fully commit to the time and energy required to complete the program
- Represent Leadership Coachella Valley in a positive and professional manner, both during and after the program
- Contribute meaningfully to the cohort experience through active participation and peer engagement
- Have the financial and scheduling support of their employer or organization

Participant Selection

Each year, Leadership Coachella Valley receives more applications than available spaces. With only 40–45 participants selected annually, the program takes great care in assembling a cohort that reflects the diversity and vibrancy of the Coachella Valley.

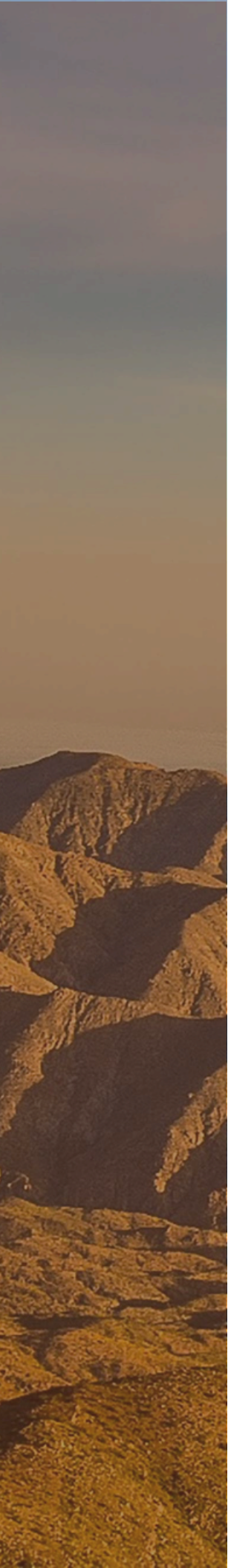
The Leadership Coachella Valley Selection Committee, composed of members of the Board of Directors, carefully reviews each application, carefully reviews each application, with emphasis on demonstrated commitment to community and professional growth, potential for future leadership, and the unique perspectives they bring. Our goal is to create a dynamic class that represents a wide range of industries, experiences, education levels, cultural backgrounds, and viewpoints.

Due to the volume of applicants, not all individuals will be invited to interview. Final selections are based on a combination of the written application, resume, references, and, when applicable, an interview.

Tuition

Tuition for Leadership Coachella Valley is \$1,500 and includes all program sessions, materials, speaker and instructor fees, field trips, meals, refreshments, tours, and graduation. Tuition may be paid by the participant or their employer, and invoices will be issued upon acceptance into the program.

A non-refundable deposit of \$250 is due before the Opening Reception on September 15, 2026. The remaining tuition balance **must be paid in full by the second session on October 16, 2026.** A limited number of full and partial scholarships are available. Applicants interested in being considered for financial assistance should indicate this when submitting their application materials.



**“Leaders
become great,
not because of
their power,
but because of
their ability to
empower
others.”**

—John Maxwell

2026-2027 Schedule

Welcome Reception
September 15, 2026

Session 1
September 18, 2026

Session 2
October 16, 2026

Session 3
November 13, 2026

Session 4
December 11, 2026

Session 5
January 22, 2027

Session 6
February 19, 2027

Class Project Experience
February 27, 2027

Session 7
March 19, 2027

Session 8
April 16, 2027

Session 9
May 14, 2027

Session 10
June 11, 2027

Graduation
June 25, 2027

*Sessions are typically scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m..
Special events (including the Welcome Reception, Class Project, and Graduation) may take
place outside of these hours.*

*All dates and times are subject to change. While we make every effort to maintain the
schedule, adjustments may occur due to planning needs.*

Next Steps

Application Checklist

- Application
- Headshot
- Resume
- Participant & Employer Commitment Form(s)

[CLICK TO APPLY NOW \(GOOGLE FORM\)](#)

[CLICK FOR COMMITMENT FORM\(S\) \(PDF\)](#)

Please submit the entire application and send all supporting documents listed above to info@leadershipcv.org no later than June 5, 2026.

Thank You!

Thank you for your interest in Leadership Coachella Valley! Each year, we receive more applications than available spaces, with only 40–45 participants selected to form a dynamic and diverse cohort. The program is competitive by design to ensure a high-quality experience for all involved.

The Leadership Coachella Valley Selection Committee, composed of members of the Board of Directors, reviews each application, considering community involvement, leadership potential, professional growth, and the unique perspectives each candidate brings. Due to the volume of applicants, not all individuals will be invited to interview. Final selections are based on the overall strength of the application materials, and we encourage those not selected to reapply in the future.

After applications have been reviewed, you will be notified of the Selection Committee's decision and provided next steps if applicable.

— Leadership Coachella Valley Board of Directors and Administration