



Leadership Tech Valley Frequently Asked Questions

What are the opportunities for participants?

Each class is comprised of a diverse group of participants with a mix of backgrounds, experiences, interests, industries and learning styles. LTV offers a unique opportunity for participants to gain an inside look at some of the area's most innovative organizations, connect to top business, government and civic leaders, and enhance their professional networks. Class members will have the opportunity to:

- Forge strong relationships and gain a network of extensive contacts among classmates, alumni, the steering committee and session-day presenters
- Meet and interact with some of the best-known and highly-effective local leaders throughout the Capital Region
- Explore community issues and exchange ideas with classmates and community experts
- Test and improve personal leadership and team skills by working on a class project to benefit our community
- Be viewed as current/emerging leaders within their own organizations and the community
- Identify areas of interest and opportunities for personal involvement in community organizations and board service.

What is the return on investment?

Given the quality of content and the caliber of speakers throughout the program, the value of the overnight retreat and the cost of graduation, a pragmatic "quantification" reflecting comparable one-day programs would normally be \$1,000 or more, for a total cost of at least \$12,500. With tuition in the amount of \$2,700, the return on investment for the individual, the sponsoring organization and the community at large is more than five times the initial cost. Many employers view this program as an

investment in employees who show the potential for growth or as a benefit for those who have performed above and beyond the call of duty. Our community realizes the return on investment year after year, as each class leaves behind its legacy.

Do you prefer applicants from specific companies or organizations?

No. Leadership Tech Valley seeks a diverse representation of organizations from across the Capital Region and does not limit participation to an established list. We encourage professionals from the private sector, education, government, military, manufacturing, healthcare, the arts, community organizations and other sectors to apply. A list of companies and organizations that have sponsored individuals in the past can be found at https://capitalregionchamber.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/LTV-Supporting-Businesses_2007-through-2019.pdf.

Do you accept more than one applicant from a particular company or organization?

Occasionally we do if the applicants work in different departments and do not have daily interaction with each other. From time to time, larger organizations will have two applicants apply and go through the interview. If both applicants are strong candidates and the selection committee can only accept one candidate, we may let the company decide which candidate will attend.

What is the company or organization's commitment?

Companies and organizations support their employees in the program to the best of their ability by giving them the time to participate and contributing to tuition.

How are candidates selected?

Candidates are required to apply by the deadline. Each candidate will be interviewed by the two steering committee co-chairs and the chamber liaison. Once interviews are complete, all applications will be reviewed by the selection committee. Approximately 40 participants will be selected from the applicant pool. We strive for a class with a diverse range of participants with respect to several factors including occupation, leadership experience, industry, community involvement or desire for more involvement, ethnicity, gender, age, cultural perspective and time in the community.

Should I attend an information session prior to submitting my application?

We encourage all potential candidates to attend one of the information sessions. You will meet the program co-chairs, chamber liaison and several class members from the current year to discuss the program requirements, format, commitment and cost and selection process. Current class participants will share their experience thus far and the impact on them personally and professionally. Attending an information session gives you the opportunity to ask questions and make sure LTV is the right professional development experience for you.

What opportunities are there for program graduates?

As a graduate you join a diverse network of more than 1,200 graduates from Capital Leadership, Leadership Schenectady and Leadership Tech Valley, becoming a part of an ever-expanding network of regional leaders you can call upon for advice and information, benefitting you long after graduation. To view the alumni list visit https://capitalregionchamber.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/CL_LS_LTV-By-Alpha-Last-Name.pdf.

Each year we have a select number of seats available on the steering committee, made up of alumni from the three Chamber programs. The steering committee team helps plan the session days each year. Current class graduates are encouraged to submit their name to be selected for the steering committee team. The commitment is a three-year term, and if selected for the co-chair position it is an additional two years.

During the 10-month program, participants have been exposed to many civic and community leaders. Through their journey of self-discovery, they've become informed of the opportunities and challenges in the Capital Region. We hope participants find their passion through the process and are motivated to make a difference in our community.