

2026 Leadership Development Program Application

Program Overview

Clayton LEADS is a community leadership development program facilitated by the **City of Clayton Downtown Development Authority (DDA)**. The program is designed to educate, connect, and inspire current and emerging leaders who are committed to the future of the City of Clayton.

Through a series of interactive sessions, participants will gain firsthand knowledge of the people, organizations, services, and resources that shape our community. Topics include local government, public safety, economic development, health and human services, outdoor recreation, and the nonprofit sector. Participants will have opportunities to engage with community leaders, explore local assets and challenges, and build lasting relationships with fellow participants.

The goal of Clayton LEADS is to develop informed, connected, and engaged leaders who are prepared to contribute to the continued growth and success of our community.

Program Schedule

Orientation

- August 5, 2026 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Government & Public Safety Day

- August 19, 2026

Health & Human Services & Economic Development Day

- September 9, 2026

Go Outdoors Day

- October 14, 2026

Nonprofit Day & Graduation Dinner

- November 12, 2026 | 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted, program days begin at approximately 8:30 a.m. and conclude by 5:00 p.m.

Program Requirements

- A program fee of **$100** is required upon acceptance.
- Scholarships are available for qualified applicants.
- Attendance and participation in **all program sessions** are required for graduation from Clayton LEADS.
- Participants will receive a program shirt. Please indicate your shirt size below.

Application Deadline & Submission

Application Deadline: July 20, 2026

Completed applications may be submitted by:

Email: info@cityofclaytonga.gov

Mail or Hand Delivery:

City Hall
837 Highway 76 West
Clayton, GA 30525

Application

Applicant Information

Name: _____

Employer/Organization: _____

Job Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Shirt Size: ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ 2XL ☐ 3XL ☐ Other _____

Application Questions

1. If selected, does your employer support your participation in the Clayton LEADS program?

2. Have you ever participated in a program similar to Clayton LEADS? If yes, please describe.

3. What do you hope to gain by participating in Clayton LEADS?

4. If selected, what do you feel you can bring to the class?

Applicant Agreement

I understand that participation in Clayton LEADS requires attendance and active participation in all scheduled sessions. I certify that the information provided in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:**_____