



Leadership Bay Applicant,

We appreciate your interest in our acclaimed Leadership Bay program. Should you be selected in the program, we are confident you will reap great benefits from the curriculum and class experiences and the numerous community relationships you will be exposed to.

- Please read the application\* thoroughly, follow instructions **closely**, and review the program commitment agreement.
- Provide **two letters of recommendation**. Do not email or fax letters of recommendation.
- Completed and signed applications must be submitted through the website. The signed program commitment and letters of recommendation must be attached to the application.
- The \$10.00 application fee will need to be paid by cash, check, or credit card to process your application. In order to pay the application fee, please contact Chamber staff.
- Deadline for application submission is Friday, August 4, 2023, by 4 p.m.
- Applicants will be notified by August 31, 2023.

The Leadership Bay orientation luncheon will be held on Wednesday, September 27 at 11:30. This meeting will be the first opportunity to meet your fellow classmates and the steering committee. You will also receive your nametag, notebooks, procedures, etc. **Attendance is mandatory for the Orientation Luncheon on September 27, 2-Day – Retreat on October 5-6, and First Friday on June 7.**

Tuition is \$1000.00 for Chamber members, and for future members, \$1375.00. Payment is due within 10 days of acceptance into the program. If tuition is not received by this date, you may be dropped from the class.

Should you have any questions concerning Leadership Bay, please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Smith, Bay County Chamber at (850) 785-5206 or [elizabeth@baychamberfl.com](mailto:elizabeth@baychamberfl.com)

***The class size is limited. In the case of non-selection, you are encouraged to re-apply next year.***

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeremy Pridgeon, 2023-2024 Chairman  
Leadership Bay Steering Committee

\*Applications can be found by clicking here: <https://forms.gle/3pfjyyFgQcAPaGbZ9>



**Program Commitment for the Class of 2023-2024**

The mission of Leadership Bay is to cultivate a broadened network of well-informed leaders whose strengthened commitment to community involvement will affect positive change in Bay County. An applicant’s willingness to invest the time required for active participation in the program is an absolute prerequisite to selection. The signed Program Commitment must be uploaded to the application.

- Attendance is required at the following events and sessions (subject to the make-up policy) for graduation from Leadership Bay. The typical sessions run from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Dates and session topics are subject to change.)
- Participants are required to attend one county commission meeting before January 2024.
- Participants are required to join a Bay County Chamber committee or task force (your choice) if are not already serving. This requirement must be fulfilled by January 2024.
- In addition, besides attending the sessions below, participants must take an active role in the Class Project. This will require time commitment outside of scheduled sessions. Completion of the Class Project is mandatory for graduation.

*Class Orientation September 27	Industry November 15	State Government February 7	Healthcare April 24
*First Friday Introduction & 2 Day Retreat October 5-6	Local Government November 29	Culture/Tourism February 21	Ecology May 8
Chamber/EDA & Leadership Skill Building October 18	Tyndall AFB December 13	Infrastructure/ Transportation March 6	*Graduation May 20
Law Enforcement/ Legal Session November 1	Naval Support Activity January 10	Communications & Media March 27	*First Friday Presentation June 7
	Education January 24	Community Needs April 10	

**Attendance Policy:** Class members must attend all sessions to graduate from Leadership Bay. The Orientation Luncheon, October First Friday, the two (2) day retreat, Graduation, and the June First Friday Project Presentation are mandatory attendance. Outside of the mandatory attendance dates, class members missing two sessions must utilize the make-up policy regardless of the reason. It is up to the participant to coordinate this and complete it before graduation. Participants will be dismissed from the program after missing three sessions or a mandatory day.

(\*Attendance is mandatory)

**I understand the above commitment required of all selected participants of the Leadership Bay Program. If selected, I agree to devote the required time and energy to meet this commitment.**

Name: (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_