

Develop • Connect • Impact

**BASTROP  
ELGIN  
SMITHVILLE  
TEXAS**

**BECOME A LEADER IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND!**

**PARTICIPATE IN THE 2018-2019**

**B.E.S.T. LEADERSHIP PROGRAM!**

The B.E.S.T Leadership Program was created in 2004 as a means to cultivate community and business leaders in Bastrop County. The program identifies and encourages current and potential leaders by acquainting them with local needs and building an understanding of how individual talents can work together to build a more successful community. Participants are given unique insights into city, county and state level organizations which allow them to build a more in-depth perspective of their own community's opportunities and challenges. Participants also receive training in the art of leadership itself, strengthening their ability to make a positive impact at home, work, and in the public forum. Participation is limited, so don't wait.

**Submit your application to the  
B.E.S.T. Leadership Program today!**



**B.E.S.T. Leadership**  
*(Bastrop\*Elgin\*Smithville\*Texas)*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of B.E.S.T. LEADERSHIP is to develop motivated, skilled and effective leaders who will contribute to the future growth and direction of Bastrop County.

**OBJECTIVES**

- Identify and select highly motivated new and emerging leaders to participate in a 9 month program.
- Motivate class participants to assume the responsibilities and opportunities inherent in the leadership program.
- Provide information to class participants on the key organizational structure within the County.
- Acquaint class participants with strengths, challenges, problems and needs of the County.

**METHODS**

- Eight sessions beginning in September and ending in May (no session in December).
- Sessions will be held the 4th Thursday of each month except for November when the class will meet the 3rd Thursday.
- The first session is mandatory to continue in the class. More than one absence in the remaining 7 sessions results in ineligibility to graduate from the B.E.S.T. Leadership Program in the current year. (Registration fee is non-refundable after Session 1)
- Each session will provide information on subjects relating to government, economic development, county asset mapping, civic affairs, and leadership and cooperative efforts within the County. County leaders and experts from state government will be presenters during the course.
- Sessions will be conducted in various locations throughout the County.
- Upon completion of the course, participants will be encouraged to seek and accept leadership roles in the County or in their respective community.

**MORE DETAILS**

All applicants for the B.E.S.T. Leadership program must be at least 18 years of age.

Class participants may self-register or be registered by a family member, an associate or an employer. Applications will be accepted at the Bastrop Chamber office. If there are more than 18 applications, there will be a review/selection process conducted by the B.E.S.T. Leadership committee to ensure the diversity of the group. If not selected for the current class, the applicant will be on a waiting list that will be maintained for future class opportunity.

Conduct offensive to class members is cause for being removed from the program.

**SAMPLE CURRICULUM OUTLINE (Subject to change)**

**SESSION 1 – Know Yourself & Know Your Neighbor**

Get acquainted activities, modified ropes course, team building, personality and temperament identification, assignments to be completed during the program, class picture

**SESSION 2 – Leadership Knowledge**

Team building activity, small group problem solving, insights to visioning & action plans, networking techniques, generational communication methods

**SESSION 3 – State Government in Action**

Visit State Capitol, overview of legislative process, insights from state agency representatives and professional lobbyists, meet elected officials

**SESSION 4 – County Government in Action**

Meet county officials, learn functions of county government, jury duty, emergency management and more

**SESSION 5 – Elements of a Strong Community**

Insights to municipal government and local economic development programs; tour utility site

**SESSION 6, 7, 8 Spotlights on Elgin, Smithville & Bastrop**

Insights to public educations, healthcare & charitable giving; tours of local businesses, attractions, municipal facilities, historic locations, and more

**GRADUATION – JUNE Date TBA**

2018-2019  
**B.E.S.T Leadership**  
*(Bastrop\*Elgin\*Smithville\*Texas)*  
**Application**

Name (last, first, middle)

Preferred name for badge

Date and place of birth

Home address (with zip code)

Name of Company / Organization

Business Address (with zip code)

Title of Position held

Cell phone

Business phone

Email address

Preferred means of communication:  Text  Email  Phone

Preferred mailing address:  Home  Business

If married, spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your primary occupation and duties, if applicable:

Provide previous employment history:

Describe your volunteer, civic, and community activities during the past five years, noting any special awards and citations:

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Provide information about your education, all levels:

What issues in our curriculum interest you the most?

### Your opinion & expectations:

In your opinion what are two issues in the county or in your community that need to be addressed?

Why have you applied to participate in the leadership program?

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What do you expect to gain from participation in the leadership program?

Attach one photograph and up to two letters of recommendation.

- My organization is prepared to cover tuition if I am accepted. (\$550 or \$525 until 9/14/18)
- I will assume responsibility for the tuition if accepted. (\$550 or \$525 until 9/14/18)

By submitting the application, I understand the required mandatory attendance for Session 1 and that more than one absence will disqualify me from graduating with the class this year.

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Signature

Date

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Print Name

**Early Registration Investment until September 14, 2018 is \$525. Investment after that date is \$550** - Your application cannot be considered until all requested information and attachments have been received. All classes are limited to 20 participants. Application submission does not guarantee placement in the class. In the event more than 20 applications are received, a panel made up from representatives of the 3 area chambers will select participants to ensure the class reflects the diversity of the participating communities.

Send to: Bastrop Chamber of Commerce  
927 Main Street  
Bastrop, TX 78602  
phone: (512) 303-0558 / email: info@bastropchamber.com

**Please make all checks payable to the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce.**

**ALL QUESTIONS ON THIS APPLICATION ARE MEANT TO ENSURE DIVERSITY, NOT TO LIMIT PARTICIPATION.**