



A corps of leaders equipped to advance our community

Leadership Akron presents an unparalleled opportunity for leaders to see beyond their own spheres to the broader interests of the community. They develop a working knowledge of our community across sectors and learn to appreciate the diverse perspectives of their classmates.

The Leadership Akron Signature Program is a ten-month program for our region's top leaders across sectors who are interested in broadening their community impact. This premier program features day long access to sector specific subject matter experts, site visits, tours, collaborative connectivity. While also facilitating opportunities for networking, community service and philanthropy, as well as unique fully immersive experiences that are truly one of a kind.

"Inclusive Impact. That is how I summarize the invaluable time I spent undergoing the Leadership Akron Signature Class . . . I have seen, experienced, connected and been immersed in so many important aspects of Akron. I have realized that we are the change that we want to make in Akron and surrounding communities.

-Dr. Tarun Bhalla, Signature Class 38
Chair, Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine Akron Children's Hospital

PROGRAM DATES

2023-2024

- March 1: Applications Open
- April 30: Applications Close
- August 16: Akron City Tour
- August 24: New Class Reception
- September 14-15: Opening Retreat
- September 27: Parks & Environment Day
- October 18: Education Day
- November 15: Business, Innovation & Entrepreneurship Day
- December 13: Arts & Culture Day
- January 17: Healthcare Day
- February 21: Social Services Day
- March 20: Justice Day
- April 17: Civic Leadership Day
- May 9-10: Closing Retreat
- June 5: Graduation

Tuition for Signature Program is \$4,500. Limited tuition assistance may be available upon request.



For more information and/or to apply:
LEADERSHIPAKRON.ORG/APPLY

Key Dates in the Application Process

MARCH 1 Applications Open

APRIL 30 Applications Close

MAY 5 Email Jill Oldham if you have *not* been contacted to schedule your interview
joldham@leadershipakron.org

MAY 12 All Interviews Complete

**WEEK OF
JUNE 5** Class Notifications

All applicants will participate in an interview.

Members of the Leadership Akron Board of Directors conduct the interviews and will contact applicants directly to schedule.

Interviews are assigned on a rolling basis as applications are received.

How to Prepare

The application needs to be completed in one sitting. We recommend that you prepare responses in a separate document and copy and paste them into the application form fields. The application covers the following areas and includes several narrative responses and a brief 30-second video.

Contact information, demographics, education and employer information

Descriptions of your involvement in up to 3 community organizations

- What was your role and date of service?
- Greatest contribution to the organization. (50 words or less)
- If you have not had the time or interest to become actively involved, what has changed that now allows you to seek involvement in the community?

3 Non-employer references (Leadership Akron Board may not be used as a reference)

- Name, title, company
- Primary email
- Cell phone and work phone

Personal Narratives (1,024 characters or 100-125 words for each question)

- Third-person biographical sketch
- Why do you want to participate in the Signature Program?
- Examples of the unique blend of personality, interests, talents, leadership style, skills and life experiences that you will bring to the class.
- Describe your leadership qualities. Provide an example of a life experience, or individual, having the greatest influence on you as a leader.
- What do you see the greatest strengths and biggest challenges of the Greater Akron area?
- What contributions are you making, or would you make to capitalize on its strengths and help address the challenges?
- What is your vision for Greater Akron's Future? (30 second video response)