

# Why Leadership Edinburg?

## An Overview

**Twenty-eight** years ago a group of Edinburg citizens involved in the Edinburg Chamber of Commerce decided leadership would improve if potential and emerging leaders had an opportunity to interact with one another and learn about the problems and issues facing the community.

From this vision, Leadership Edinburg grew to the program we have today. In **August 2016**, the Steering Committee will select approximately fifteen to twenty new members for **Class XXVIII**. Each of these individuals must show past evidence of community involvement and express a desire for future leadership. In return, Leadership Edinburg commits to provide distinct learning environments, which will improve its member's leadership skills and opportunities.

To date over **455** people have met the Leadership Edinburg challenge. After completing the class, members have gone on to improve Edinburg by serving their committees, by serving on community boards and by working in local politics. We invite you to become part of this tradition by applying for membership in **Class XXVIII**.

**Mandatory Kick off Retreat:** During the **September retreat**, class members will participate in various hands-on and physical activities designed to identify various styles of leadership. Class members will analyze their own leadership styles and learn ways to communicate with other types of leaders. The class will then use their skills on several problem-solving activities.

**Monthly Class Sessions:** The class will meet every **third (3rd) Wednesday of the month from 12:00 – p.m. to 6:00 p.m. except for the Nov. session (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. 8:00am), March session (which will meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday)** throughout the community and discuss a particular community issue (e.g. criminal justice, education, economic development, health care) and learn how it affects the people of Edinburg. Class members will have the opportunity to meet and interact with a wide variety of community leaders. Class members will also have the opportunity to learn from one another by sharing their own unique insights and perspectives through discussion and debate. Please be aware that one session may change to an earlier time.

**Class Project:** The class will identify a pressing Edinburg Chamber of Commerce need and then design and implement a project to meet that need. Actively participating in the project allows members to strengthen their community network further. **The project has to be identified by October session.**

**Eligibility requirements:** The proposed number of participants is limited; therefore those applicants with demonstrated leadership potential related to the enhancement of Edinburg would receive priority. Eligible applicants not initially selected to participate in the program, will be placed on a waiting list for consideration at a later date. The Selection Committee will review all applications and select a class which is broadly representative of the community. There are no restrictions regarding race, sex, or religion.

### **Attendance requirements**

1. Leadership Edinburg is a nine-month program, **September through May**, consisting of nine 6-hour meetings on a specific topic, once a month. Meetings are usually held on the **3rd Wednesday of each month, September through May (unless otherwise noted)**. Attendance at all sessions is required. Those failing to meet attendance requirements will be asked to withdraw. Punctual attendance of meetings is required. Late arrival or early departure from program meetings exceeding a total of **two hours** will result in automatic dismissal. If an absence is absolutely unavoidable, **two days** advance notice is required. A formal letter after the 1<sup>st</sup> absence will be sent to participant. The Leadership Edinburg Committee will address attendance and absenteeism issues and take appropriate action as deemed necessary.

2. A mandatory retreat scheduled **September 16 & 17, 2016** initiates the course and a graduation concludes the ninth month program.

3. A firm commitment by the applicant and his or her employer (where applicable) to the Leadership Edinburg Program concept forms the basis for a successful program. Those currently unable to make a firm commitment may wish to apply at a later date.

**Tuition**

Tuition and private contributions fund the program. Upon acceptance into the program, the participant will be billed for tuition of \$450.00 which is due by **August 26, 2016**. A \$50.00 late fee will be imposed if tuition payment is made after the deadline. Applicants should make arrangements in advance to meet the tuition deadline. Only \$100.00 may be refunded if the participant wishes to withdraw before the retreat is held; no tuition will be refunded after the retreat.

All applicants will be confidentially evaluated.

**Application Deadline – Friday, August 12, 2016**

Applications received after **Friday, August 12, 2016** will be evaluated for eligibility and future enrollment consideration. Applicants will be notified on the status of their application on or before **Friday, August 19, 2016**..

**Personal Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle or Maiden)

Age \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Edinburg Area \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Maiden)

Number of Children (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Children's ages \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical limitations: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Education:** Begin with high school(s), then colleges(s), business trade schools and/or other specialized training.

<u>NAME AND CITY OF SCHOOL</u>	<u>DATES (FROM - TO)</u>	<u>DEGREE</u>	<u>MAJOR</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Academic Performance Awards/Honors (High School/College):

---

---

---

---

**Employment Information (If applicable):**

Should the applicant be accepted for Leadership Edinburg, I understand that he/she may be taking time off from work to participate, and I agree to provide the necessary released time.

Name of employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Hire: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you feel this individual would be an asset to the Leadership Edinburg Program? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

Print Name Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous employment (in reverse, chronological order, account for all periods including active military duty).

Employer	Job Title	From	To
----------	-----------	------	----

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Briefly summarize your most meaningful personal and/or professional accomplishments.

---

---

---

---

How much time do you presently devote to community, civic, professional and other organizations and activities?

---

---

---

---

Have you been as active in community and civic work as you would like to be? If not, what major barriers have prevented you from being active?

---

---

---

---

In what areas of community and civic activities would you like to become more involved?

---

---

---

---

What conditions have changed that now enable you to be more actively involved in community and civic activities?

---

---

---

---

What, in your opinion are the most important issues facing Edinburg today? (Please list in priority order with a brief description).

---

---

---

---

What do you hope to achieve if selected to participate in Leadership Edinburg?

---

---

---

---

Please list the reason(s) you feel would make you a good candidate for Leadership Edinburg.

---

---

---

---

By submitting this application for consideration into the Leadership Edinburg Program, I understand and commit to follow all requirements as explained.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please return completed application to:

Leadership Edinburg Steering Committee  
c/o Edinburg Chamber of Commerce  
P. O. Box 85 602 W. University  
Edinburg, TX 78540  
Tel (956) 383-4974  
Fax (956) 383-6942

05/31/16