



2026
2027 **CLP Application**

The Community Leadership Program (CLP) was created by Greater Iowa City, Inc. in 1990 to inspire emerging leaders by educating them on the opportunities, strengths, and challenges in Johnson County and to equip them for future community leadership roles.

Selection Criteria

Approximately 25 individuals will be selected for the CLP Class of 2026-2027.

Participants are selected by a committee that strives to enroll a class representing a diverse range of occupations, backgrounds, interests, and talents.

Preference is given to individuals who:

- are able to attend all sessions and program events
- have participated in past community and professional activities
- intend to serve the Johnson County area
- intend to remain in the Johnson County area in the near future

All applicants will be notified by July 31, 2026 of the committee's decision.

Tuition

Tuition rates are listed below. Tuition includes all program fees, including materials, meals, refreshments, and retreat transportation / accommodations.

Early bird tuition - \$2,500 **application must be received by Friday, May 29*

Greater IC investor tuition - \$2,750

Non-investor tuition - \$3,000

If you are accepted, payment will be due by program orientation on August 27, 2026. Check, MasterCard, American Express, or Visa are accepted. Unfortunately, we are unable to refund tuition to those who leave the program early or are disqualified from graduation for excessive absences.

Limited tuition assistance is available. If you are interested, please email Tom Martinez at tom@greateriowacity.com. Tuition assistance requests are not disclosed to the selection committee and will not influence your acceptance.



Participant Expectations

- **Attend** every CLP session - including an orientation meeting, a weekend retreat, and full-day sessions each month. You will be expected to fully participate in every aspect of the program and there is no substitute for your presence. Without attendance by every participant, the experience is diminished for all class members.
- **Prepare** for sessions by completing assignments. Session leaders may assign articles to read prior to class. You will also complete a group project that will require work outside of class.
- **Contribute** enthusiastically to each CLP session, including:
 - Writing "thank you" notes following sessions
 - Engaging fully with speakers and other class members at all sessions, including limiting cell phone use to scheduled e-breaks
 - Work collaboratively with your fellow members of your class

2026 – 2027 Program Schedule

All sessions are from 8:00am – 5:00pm, unless otherwise noted. Topic order is subject to change.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27	Orientation (5:30pm – 7:30pm)
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11	Community and Place
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 - MONDAY OCTOBER 12	Retreat and Team Building (8:00 AM Sunday - 5:00 PM Monday)
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13	Economic Development
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11	Government
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15	Nonprofit
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12	Education
FRIDAY, MARCH 5	Health Care
FRIDAY, APRIL 9	Arts & Culture
FRIDAY, APRIL 30	<i>Hold as a make-up day in case any sessions are cancelled due to inclement weather or other unforeseen issues</i>
FRIDAY, MAY 14	Agriculture & Environment
FRIDAY, JUNE 11	Wrap-Up & Graduation



Community Leadership Program

Graduating from CLP demonstrates an understanding of material covered throughout the year. Attendance at all sessions is expected. For questions about the attendance policy or to inquire about a scheduling conflict and its impact on your application, email Tom Martinez at tom@greateriowacity.com.

Application Instructions

- Fully complete parts 1 through 6 of this application. Note that parts 4 and 5 must be completed in separate documents and submitted along with your application.
- Submit this completed application, personal experience essays (part 4), and letter of recommendation (part 5) at: www.greateriowacity.com/clp-application

Application and all required materials must be received by
Thursday, June 18 at 4:30 PM

Questions regarding this application may be directed to:

Tom Martinez || Program Manager

tom@greateriowacity.com || (319) 337-9637

Part 1: Information

Last Name	First Name	Preferred First Name	Pronouns
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Email Address	Phone
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Years lived and/or worked in Johnson County



**Community
Leadership
Program**

Part 2: Professional Experience

Your Current Employer Name

Employer Address + Zip Code

Your Position / Title

Job Responsibilities

Briefly describe your professional history, which might include educational background, previous employment, or entrepreneurial ventures (in the last 5 years):

What do you consider your greatest career achievements to date?

Part 3: Community Experience

Please list in order of personal importance the civic, volunteer, and professional activities in which you have participated. For each activity, indicate the extent of your involvement, accomplishments, offices held, awards received and/or special recognitions. Experiences need not be limited to those in the Johnson County area. If you have not been involved in such activities, please describe other involvement or passions you have.



Part 4: Personal Perspectives Essays

Upload separately!

Please answer the following essay questions in a separate document. Please answer each question separately. Total length per essay should be 250 words or less.

- **1.** What do you hope to gain from participating in the Community Leadership Program? Are there specific professional goals, aspirations, or accomplishments you hope to achieve through this experience?
- **2.** What skills and experiences will you bring to the program? Are there particular skills you are looking to further develop or strengthen?
- **3.** Can you share an example of a time when you demonstrated leadership to address an issue or challenge in the Johnson County area? Please describe your role and the outcome.

Part 5: Letter of Recommendation

Upload separately!

A letter of recommendation is required from your employer, sponsor, or local colleague. The letter should explain how your background and experience would contribute to the leadership class and why you should be considered for the 2026-2027 Community Leadership Program.

Part 6: Applicant + Employer Agreement

Applicant

I understand the purpose of the Community Leadership Program and the commitment expected of class members. If selected, I will devote the required time to attend all functions of the program. I understand my attendance and preparedness are important and that if I fail to meet the obligations of the program, I may be disqualified from graduation from the program without a tuition refund.

If selected to participate in the 2026-2027 Community Leadership Program, I will make arrangements for payment of my tuition by Orientation on August 26, 2025.

Signature

Date



Community
Leadership
Program

Employer / Sponsor

I fully support the application of _____ for the 2026-2027 Community Leadership Program. I am willing to make available the necessary time for full participation in all scheduled classes and activities. I will make sure they can attend all sessions without penalty. I also understand that if they are withdrawn from the class for excessive absences, tuition will not be refunded.

Employer/Sponsor Name - Printed

Email

Business/Organization Name

Signature

Date

Please keep a copy for your records.