The Business Leadership Academy of Tacoma-Pierce County is an opportunity for current and emerging leaders to engage with the business community while developing leadership skills, linking with a mentor, and interacting with exemplary leaders.

We will explore leader development, assess our leadership strengths and weaknesses, learn from leaders that contribute to the vitality of our community, and visit organizations at the heart of our regional business community. During the first session, participants will be able to personalize overall learning objectives for themselves and the 2022 program. Bring your leadership and business community strengths and let us add to them together!

The Business Leadership Academy of Tacoma-Pierce County, sponsored by the Chamber and Pacific Lutheran University, is a regional community leadership program founded in 1978. Hundreds of leaders are alumni of this program and will become your network for learning and connecting.

Leadership Academy Mentor
You will be matched with a mentor who is an alumnus of the program or on the Chamber Board. Together you will build your personalized leader development plan, discuss how best to leverage your experience in the 2022 Business Leadership Academy for career and community leadership success, and plan for the future.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS & BENEFITS

- **Learn leadership skills** and build your personalized leader development plan
- **Engage in assessments** to learn your strengths and opportunities for growth
- **Connect with a designated mentor** who is an alumnus of the program or a member of the Chamber Board
- **Meet exemplary leaders** who impact our business community
- **Interact with other current and emerging leaders** in the 2022 Business Leadership Academy class
- **Tackle a Chamber of Commerce strategic initiative** that benefits our community
- **Increase your knowledge of the region, leaders, and decision-making processes**
- **Access a network of program alumni** to guide individual, business and community problem-solving
- **Visit organizations** that add to the vitality of our region
- **Craft your own Call to Action** for engaging as a leader in our community

DATES

**Welcome Session**
September 15, 2022
8:30am - 4:00pm with lunch

**Weekly Sessions**
September 22, 29
October 6, 13, 20, 27
November 3
8:30am - 11:30am
Chamber Offices and Pacific Lutheran University

**Retreat**
November 10-11
Alderbrook Resort
Late afternoon to noon the next day

**Tacoma Celebration Lunch**
November 17
**Program Overview**

**September 15: Welcome Session**
Overall program design, introductions, beginning to create a personalized leadership development plan, preparing to conduct a leader profile interview, connecting with mentor, and introduction to strategic initiative project. Lunch included.

**September 22: The Challenge of Leading**
Leaders and leading in organizations. Learning to reflect on our strengths and opportunities for growth. Leading with heart and mind. Leading by example.

**September 29: SITE VISIT Downtown Tacoma Walking Tour**
Visits to businesses and with leaders at the heart of our community.

**October 6: Visioning and Focus on the Future**
How leaders lead the way in envisioning the future of the organization. Engaging others in exploring what could be and together establish inspiring, attainable visions. The critical importance of respecting and seeking after diverse perspectives.

**October 13: Leading Change and Risk Taking**
Seeking opportunities for change and appropriate risk taking. The leader as change agent recognizing people and process change issues. Harnessing resistance to change as an opportunity. Leading strategic communication conversations.

**October 20: SITE VISIT Economic Impact Exploration**
Exploring leaders and organizations impacting the economy of our region.

**October 27: Motivating and Lifting Others**
Understanding what motivates, and creating the environment where others choose to be motivated. Effective team leadership. What followership really means and how it energizes at multiple levels. Respecting diversity. Encouraging the heart and building commitment. Understanding power and influence.

**November 3: What Matters Most?**
Focusing energies and building leadership skills for what matters most to us, our organizations, and our communities. The courage to lead in difficult times and circumstances. Civility as an essential leader responsibility.

**November 10-11: Retreat at Alderbrook Resort**
Integrating our leadership learning and reflecting on next steps for our personalized leader development plan. Who am I? Who do I want to be? What’s next? What do I most want to influence and accomplish as a leader? Reporting on community project strategic initiative. The Leader’s Call to Action.

**November 17: Celebration Luncheon**

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Here’s what Leadership Academy Alumni have to say.

"Having the opportunity to be part of the Business Leadership Academy early in my career helped open my eyes to all of the entities working together to make Pierce County a wonderful place to work and live. I was able to see how the private, nonprofit and government sectors work together to accomplish sometimes competing agendas. Hearing from local leaders how they make decisions, particularly decisions affecting large sections of the population, was a fantastic learning opportunity. I still vividly recall the County Executive talking about his dream for a golf course, and here it is reality today."

**Erika Tucci**
Senior Program Officer
Ben B. Cheney Foundation

"Leadership Academy connected me with key stakeholders and influencers in the community allowing me to build strategic relationships to move myself and my organization forward. Whether I was meeting Sheriff Paul Pastor and Superintendent Carla Santorno, or connecting with my classmates, the connections I made through leadership have been invaluable. Leadership Academy inspired me to not only become a more effective leader myself, but also encouraged me to inspire my colleagues to be more enlightened, catalytic leaders in the business community and the South Sound."

**A J. Gordon**
Vice President & Senior Relationship Manager
Banner Bank

"Leadership Academy Alumni include many community leaders, such as:"

- **Woodrow Jones**
  - 1987
- **Judy Rae Jasprica**
  - 1990
- **Jason Whalen**
  - 1994
- **Marilyn Strickland**
  - 1997
- **Dan Voelpel**
  - 1999
- **Marty Campbell**
  - 2005
- **Andrea Smith**
  - 2007
- **Bett Simpson-Lucas**
  - 2007
- **Chelsea Levy**
  - 2009
- **Carla Santorno**
  - 2010
- **Debbie Lee**
  - 2019
- **Kiara Daniels**
  - 2020
44th Annual BUSINESS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Business Leadership Academy of Tacoma-Pierce County begins on September 15, 2022, and continues with consecutive Thursday morning sessions until November 3, 2022. The program concludes with an overnight retreat on November 10-11, 2022 and a celebration luncheon on November 17, 2022.

Applicant Name________________________________________________________
Job Title______________________________________________________________

Company, ______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Company Address ______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________________________ State ______ Zip ______

Phone __________________________________________________ Email ___________________________________________________________________

Supervisor Name____________________________________________________ Supervisor Title___________________________________________________________

Supervisor email ______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Will you be able to fulfill the time commitment?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Most of the time

Do you have your employer’s support and understanding of the time required to participate in the Business Leadership Academy of Tacoma-Pierce County?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Tuition for each participant in the Business Leadership Academy of Tacoma-Pierce County is $1,895 and will be due in full by September 9, 2022. How will your tuition be paid? Will you need a partial scholarship?

Check all that apply
☐ Employer ☐ Myself ☐ Scholarship ☐ Other

I understand, as does my employer, the purpose of the Business Leadership Academy of Tacoma-Pierce County. I also understand completion of this application does not ensure my acceptance into the Class of 2022.

If I am accepted, I agree to attend all sessions, beginning September 15, 2022, concluding with the overnight retreat November 10-11, 2022. I also agree to participate fully in a group project.

Applicant Signature_________________________________________________ Date __________________

Employer Signature_________________________________________________ Date __________________

COVID Masking Requirements: Masks are required for all currently unvaccinated people in indoor public settings (except in dining spaces while seated and eating or drinking) and crowded outdoor locations where physical distancing is not possible. This will be a consistent requirement during the Leadership Academy, whether you are a student, faculty or staff member, visitor, or vendor. Wearing a mask does not signify vaccination status. Those who are fully vaccinated may still choose to wear a mask at some or all times, and we support that choice. We also encourage mask-wearing, regardless of your vaccination status, while experiencing or recovering from other cold and flu viruses.

Submit to:  
Business Leadership Academy of Tacoma-Pierce County  
Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber  
PO Box 1933, Tacoma, WA 98401-1933  
Or email to Alison Bryan at Alisonb@tacomaschamber.org

Priority deadline for all applicants is August 1, 2022.