

**A LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE  
THOMASTON-UPSON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP UPSON  
INFORMATION SHEET - 2019-2020**

**DEADLINE to SUBMIT Youth Leadership Upson Documents is SEPTEMBER 9!**

**PARTICIPANTS:**

Any student that is a resident of Upson County and is a member of the Sophomore, Junior or Senior class can participate in the Youth Leadership Upson Program. We encourage participation from all three classes.

A Home-Schooled or Private Schooled student may apply, but they must live in Upson County and be an Upson EMC Customer.

Applicants must complete an application, plus have the recommendations of two adults. Please send in the original Youth Leadership Application that must be hand-written by the applicant.

When the judges are considering a student to recommend, they look for those who have:

- ❖ Demonstrated leadership qualities through their actions with service to school, church, civic or youth activities
- ❖ Shown initiative, enthusiasm
- ❖ Integrity of character
- ❖ Interest in people
- ❖ Potential for contributing to the program

**JUDGES THAT SELECT THE CANDIDATES FOR YOUTH  
LEADERSHIP UPSON ARE NOT LOCAL!**

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of Youth Leadership Upson shall be to identify emerging leaders among the youth of our community, and to provide for them an organized training program in the skills necessary to act in leadership capacities, to address issues of concern to them in their personal, academic, extracurricular and community involvement.

**PROGRAMS:**

Participants can expect to be trained by leadership development professionals, be involved in group discussions, participate in presentations, benefit from guest speakers and become actively involved in session topics.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

Participants in Youth Leadership Upson are selected after consideration of their recognized and potential leadership and the merit of their application and recommendations. Interviews are only necessary if the margin between two students is too narrow. At the conclusion of Youth Leadership Upson, participants will have developed a network of in-depth relationships with students from throughout the community and will have gained a deeper insight and broader knowledge of leadership skills and community issues.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

**Attendance at all programs is required.** If an emergency arises, a written explanation must be submitted to the Youth Leadership Upson Committee. The committee will then determine if the absence is excused or not. If more than one program is missed, the student will not graduate from the program.

## **HUBERT HANCOCK LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Upson EMC and the Thomaston-Upson Chamber of Commerce HAVE A PARTNERSHIP THAT ENHANCES the Youth Leadership Upson Program, with the Hubert Hancock Leadership Award - Washington Youth Tour, the prize for the “most outstanding” of the group. The award, named locally to honor Hubert Hancock, longtime Upson EMC director and Chamber supporter, will give a selected student the opportunity to join others from Georgia for a two-day Georgia Tour, then venture on with students from across the nation on an incredible week in Washington, D.C. known as the Washington Youth Tour. The tour is a fast-paced once in a lifetime opportunity to see how America works. The student is selected by his/her peers, as well as attendance with every program, participation to the fullest degree and submission of all applications, references, and permission slips on time and accurately. Then out of town judges conduct the interviews of the six finalists.

## **LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:**

Two letters of recommendation are required. Each must be mailed directly from the adult that recommends you. Provide pre-addressed envelopes with the recommendation forms and give to those that you have selected to write the recommendations for you. Please write the address below on the envelopes for them to ensure that we receive them. Be sure to follow-up with those that you have asked to fill out your forms and do not wait until the last minute to ask someone to do this for you.

Mail to:

YOUTH LEADERSHIP UPSON  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
P.O. BOX 827  
THOMASTON, GA 30286.

These forms should be written by:

1. One school official (teacher, counselor, etc) who knows you.
2. One other adult who knows you or has worked with you in some organizational or supervisory capacity (minister, employer, non-profit etc).

**Follow up to ensure that your recommendation forms are sent in. They are a crucial part of your application. APPLICATION AND RECOMMENDATION FORMS MUST BE AT THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BY 4:00 p.m., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2019. Failure to return all parts of the application will mean that you will not be considered for this program.**