



Participant Application from _____

Mission

Leadership Mitchell is dedicated to supporting the highest quality leadership preparation program for individuals with particular emphasis on specific skills and collaborative leadership seeking positive change in response to civic, governmental, business and industry challenges in the Mitchell area.

Program

Leadership Mitchell is a formal educational program intended for Mitchell area citizens who have an interest in area communities, their leaders and institutions, their decision-making processes, and/or specific leadership opportunities.

During the program, which spans over eight months, participants will learn and practice leadership skills for use in their professional and community service roles. Additionally, participants build a leadership network among current and emerging leaders, learn about community issues and become familiar with the rewards of community service work.

Purpose

- To provide a format within which participants can meet existing community leaders and encourage interaction among them. This interaction will in turn encourage emerging leaders to deepen their involvement in the community;
- To identify and develop potential leaders, acquaint them with community matters and make them aware of resources, institutions, individuals, organizations and other entities available for addressing these matters and solving community tribulations;
- To help potential and existing leaders sharpen their leadership skills and improve their effectiveness in interpersonal situations.

Participants

Leadership Mitchell will select 14 area citizens who live or work in the Mitchell area, and who:

1. Have the potential for further advancement to leadership positions within their own organizations, which may place them in positions to influence important community matters.
2. Have the time available to participate in the Leadership Mitchell program and have the complete support of the company or organization she/he represents. (*To successfully complete the program, full attendance at all sessions, including the initial briefing session and final recognition ceremonies, is required. An excused absence for no more than one session will be given for illness or family emergency.*)
3. Represent a cross-section of county population groups, including business, agriculture, clergy, community and service organizations, education, government, labor, professions, and other groupings, including ethnic, gender, age, and community experience.

Tuition

The Chamber Member tuition fee is \$500 and Non-Member tuition fee is \$650. For final acceptance as a Leadership Mitchell participant, the \$500 tuition fee (for program coordination, meeting rooms, luncheons, materials, travel, break refreshments and the recognition ceremonies next Spring) must be **paid fully by Monday, August 31, 2026**. All applications are subjected to a non-refundable \$100 deposit.

Leadership Mitchell Class of 2026-2027

Application Deadline: Monday, August 31, 2026

Instructions

Leadership Mitchell Application is the primary tool used in participant selection.

- Limit answers to available space. Do not include additional sheets or resumes.
- Applications must be signed by applicant and by applicant's employer.
- Applications must be received by the Chamber of Commerce, 601 N. Main Street, Mitchell, SD 57301, with full payment, by **Monday, August 31, 2026**.
- Applicants will be notified by *Friday, September 4, 2026*, of the status of their applications.

Personal Information

Name _____
Last First Middle I. Known As

Birth Date ___/___/___ Male ___ Female ___ Years in Mitchell Area _____

Home Address _____
Street City Zip Code Telephone

List three (3) Personal and/or Professional References

Name	Title	Organization	Phone
1. _____			
2. _____			
3. _____			

Education

Name, City of School	Degree	Major

Extracurricular activities

Occupational Information (if not employed, please check here)

Present Employer _____ #of years _____

Address _____
Street City State Zip Code

Phone Fax Email

Present Title or Responsibility _____

Please describe your present job responsibilities _____

Which of the following categories best describes your present position?

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Agriculture ___ | Business ___ | Clergy ___ | Culture/Arts ___ |
| Education ___ | Government ___ | Health Care ___ | Homemaker ___ |
| Human Services ___ | Industry ___ | Labor ___ | Media ___ |
| Professional ___ | Non-Profit ___ | Retired ___ | Other: _____ |

Community Involvement

Please check the areas of leadership or service that interest you

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Agriculture Development
___ | Diversity, Minority
Matters___ | Health, Health Care
Issues___ |
| Arts, Cultural Activities___ | Economic Development___ | Land Use___ |
| Children, Youth,
Families___ | Education, Training___ | Recreation and Events___ |
| City/County Boards,
Committees___ | Environmental
Concerns___ | Retaining Graduates ___ |
| Communications, PR___ | Facilitation, Issue
Analysis___ | School to Careers___ |
| Community
Development___ | Government, Public
Policy___ | Workforce Development___ |
| | | Other:
Specify _____
_____ |

Tuition

Tuition will be paid by: *Applicant's Portion* -- \$_____

Employer / Sponsor Portion -- \$_____

Commitment

To receive a certificate of completion from Leadership Mitchell, participants are expected to attend all sessions in their entirety, including the introductory session, the final recognition ceremonies, one Community Involvement session during the 2025-26 Leadership program and fully participate in the planning and organization of a class project. Sessions will be varied times from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., on Thursday: September 17, October 15, November 19, January 21, February 18, March 18, April 15, and May 20. Additional time outside of class may be required as decided by the group project. The Commencement Ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 27 from 5:30 - 7 p.m.

APPLICANT'S STATEMENT: I understand the purposes of Leadership Mitchell, and if I am selected, I will devote the time and resources necessary to complete the program. Even though emergencies do arise, I understand that if I miss **more than one of these sessions**, or **parts of sessions that comprise more than two of its topics**, I am not eligible to receive the Certificate of Completion or a refund of tuition.

I understand the above commitments and agree to be bound by them in signing this application.

Applicant Signature

Date

Employer / Sponsor Commitment

This applicant has our complete support, including the days away from work (above) required to participate in the program and the tuition payment that we have agreed to as noted above.

Employer Name

Authorized Signature

Title

Date

Mail this completed application to:

Chamber of Commerce
Leadership Mitchell
601 N. Main Street
Mitchell, SD 57301

Direct questions to the Mitchell Chamber office, Johanna Allen; 605-996-5567, or
johanna@mitchellsd.com.

The final application deadline is *Monday, August 31, 2026.*