



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I have to attend every session?

Yes. Participants are expected to attend all sessions. One excused absence (up to 9 hours total) is permitted. Orientation and State Government Day are mandatory. A typical session runs from 8 AM to 5 PM, and attendance is strictly enforced.

Can I skip a session if I'm not interested in the topic?

No. Every session contributes to the overall experience. Your participation and perspective are valuable, even if a topic isn't of personal interest.

What time does each session begin and end?

Most days begin at 8 AM, with arrival by 7:45 AM, and end by 5 PM. Healthcare Day includes a Mid-Year Review and concludes by 6:30 PM. Dates are provided in advance to help with planning.

The exception to this is Orientation, which includes a cocktail hour and dinner from 6 – 8pm, and State Government Day, which includes a cocktail hour and dinner from 6 – 8pm on Tuesday and a return time of approximately 6pm on Wednesday.

Will there be breaks during the day?

Yes. Breaks are scheduled to allow time for restroom use and to check messages or make calls.

Why is Orientation held outside of Allegany County?

Orientation is held off-site to help participants step away from daily responsibilities. Removing the option to go home overnight allows for deeper engagement and stronger peer connections over the two-day experience.

Do I have to ride the bus, or can I drive myself?

Participants are expected to use provided transportation to stay on schedule and avoid parking issues. Special circumstances will be considered individually.

Is there a lot of walking or sitting?

Some days include walking short distances, stairs, and extended periods of sitting or standing. If you have accessibility needs, please let us know in advance.

What does tuition cover?

Tuition includes all topic day activities, transportation (including the Annapolis trip), overnight accommodations, and meals.

What kind of food is provided?

Most days include a continental breakfast, coffee, and water. Lunch typically features soups, salads, sandwiches, and beverages. Light snacks may also be provided. If you have specific dietary needs, plan accordingly and bring extra snacks if needed.

What happens if there's bad weather?

We've built in snow dates—typically one week after the original session date. Safety is our top priority, and changes will be communicated promptly based on our inclement weather policy.

If I change jobs during the program, can I stay enrolled?

Yes. We understand job transitions happen. Just discuss your continued participation with both your current and new employers.

How are participants selected?

Applications are promoted widely through local media, our website, and social media. A selection committee reviews applications based on four criteria: community involvement, program expectations, readiness, and analysis of key local challenges with proposed solutions. Up to 24 participants are selected based on overall scores.

Who presents the information during topic days?

Each topic day features local subject matter experts. For example, Local Government Day includes panels of officials from various levels of government. While we aim for full representation of our community, availability may vary.

Is this a leadership development curriculum?

Yes and no. Our Orientation will offer several leadership resources that can be used to ensure you get the most out of the program that can also be used professionally. The purpose of Leadership Allegany, however, is not to *teach* leadership, but to give participants an opportunity to peel back the curtains within the community through each topic to gain a better understanding of the positivity, issues, and challenges we face. Participants will come away with greater knowledge, an inspired sense of belonging, and a desire to lead.

Have a specific question not listed here?

Please reach out to us! We would love to provide you with the information you need to make an informed decision about an investment in Leadership Allegany. Email: info@alleganycountychamber.com or Call: 301-722-2820