

Commitment Form for Centurions Leadership Program



The Centurions Leadership Program of the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce prepares a cross-section of the community's emerging leaders for their roles in shaping the future of Kansas City. This prestigious program includes active participation in educational programs and exposure to community leaders and issues. Criteria for acceptance include proven career success and community involvement. The Centurions Leadership Program seeks to select a diverse class of participants who represent all sectors of the greater Kansas City region.

Participation and time commitment: Program participants are required to attend monthly Centurions task force meetings on the second Tuesday of each month from May through January. Only one of these task forces is optional: a 3-day Benchmarking Trip to a peer city, scheduled to take place in October. In addition, **attendance at the annual Retreat from April 9-11 is required.** Each Centurion will participate in at least 20 hours of community service projects each program year, including three hours volunteering with the Centurions Legacy Project, assist in the preparation of one task force meeting, and serve on one standing committee. Participants who fail to meet the attendance expectations will be required to withdraw from the program.

Program tuition: Annual tuition for organizations with more than 250 employees is \$4,100, while organizations with fewer than 250 employees will pay \$2,900. The tuition payment covers the orientation retreat, incidental meeting expenses, task force expenses, and program operating expenses. The Benchmarking Trip fee is an additional fee of approximately \$1500-\$1900 and covers group hotel accommodations and programming expenses. Tuition is due prior to the annual retreat and is non-refundable.

The Centurions Leadership Program is committed to assisting participants who need financial assistance to cover tuition. **Scholarships** are available to participants based on a variety of factors including but not limited to financial need, adding diversity to the program, or the nature of the organization employing the candidate. The number of scholarships and amounts awarded vary by year.

Letters of recommendation: One letter of recommendation **from your employer** is required, but up to three can be submitted. The letter(s) should describe the applicant's potential as a leader in Kansas City and how the applicant's leadership could benefit the community. One letter should come from the applicant's employer. The recommendation letter(s) should be uploaded with the online application. The application and the letter(s) of recommendation are due by 11:59 p.m. January 15, 2025.

Application: The completed uploaded application, a \$75 application fee (invoice will be sent following submission of application), at least one letter of recommendation, and any additional supporting documents are due by 11:59 p.m. January 15, 2025.

Interviews: Applicant interviews will be conducted January 21 -31, 2025. Each applicant will be notified of the selection results by February 7, 2025 (*all dates subject to change*). For more information about Centurions Leadership Program and its application process, please contact Lindsay Jarquio at the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce at (816) 374-5493 or jarquio@kcchamber.com.

PROGRAM COMMITMENT

Centurions applicants please initial next to each requirement and sign below

_____ *My employer is a member in good standing of the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. If my employer is not currently a member of the Chamber, I understand membership must be obtained prior to the application deadline or to further participate in Centurions programming. I fully understand I must maintain continued employment by a KC Chamber member company in good standing during participation as an active Centurion, as well as maintain full-time residency in the Greater Kansas City area during participation as an active Centurion.*

_____ *I fully understand the attendance requirements including attendance at the annual retreat (including overnight stays) and attendance at full-day task force meetings held the second Tuesday of each month from May through January and missing any portion of three task force meetings may result in removal from the program.*

_____ *I fully understand the tuition requirements for the two-year duration of the Centurions Leadership Program and agree to fulfill those requirements if I am selected to participate in the program. Payment of annual tuition fees by the participating Centurion or employing company are due prior to each program year's Retreat.*

_____ *I fully understand I am required to complete at least 20 hours of Centurions-supported community service projects per program year, including 3-hours of active participation in the work of the Legacy Project during each program year.*

_____ *I fully understand I am required to actively participate in the work of the committee and task force to which I am assigned during each program year.*

_____ *I fully understand violating the Centurions Code of Conduct may result in removal from the program.*

_____ *Furthermore, I certify that this application is my own original work and is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and ability.*

Signature of applicant

Date

Printed or typed name of applicant

I authorize and encourage the above applicant to participate in the two-year Centurions Leadership Program and fully understand the program requirements outlined above.

Signature of **Chief Executive Officer or highest-ranking local officer at organization only if CEO is not local**

Date

Printed or typed name and title of **Chief Executive Officer or highest-ranking local officer at organization only if CEO is not local**

I authorize and encourage the above applicant to participate in the two-year Centurions Leadership Program and fully understand the program requirements outlined above.

Signature of **direct supervisor**

Date

Printed or typed name and title of **direct supervisor**