# JUNIOR LEADERSHIP LAKE NORMAN CLASS XV

## 2026-2027 APPLICATION & INFORMATION

Junior Leadership Lake Norman is a program sponsored by the Lake Norman Chamber to develop a group of informed, committed, and qualified young individuals capable of providing **visionary and progressive leadership** for their futures as well as the Lake Norman Region.

The program is an in-depth **study of management styles, personalities, and involved activities** to illustrate positive leadership opportunities.

Taking place over an eight-month period, participants in Junior Leadership Lake Norman have a chance to **tour facilities, participate in informative seminars, and are enlightened to the resources available** to them in the greater Lake Norman area.

Once participants have completed Junior Leadership Lake Norman, they will be well informed, and have a foundation for **implementing their knowledge and skills to become a progressive citizen and leader** in the great Lake Norman Region.

**Presented by:**

NOVANT HEALTH

**Supporting Sponsors:**

DUKE ENERGY

State Farm Jason Colvin, Agent

Carolina Office Systems

The Range at Lake Norman

EnergyUnited Your Local Connection

"There are no such things as limits to growth, because there are no limits on the human capacity for intelligence, imagination, and wonder."

**Ronald Reagan**

2026-2027

# SCHEDULE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 OCT | RECEPTION/ORIENTATION 4:00 PM AT LAKE NORMAN CHAMBER |
| 8 OCT | ONE DAY RETREAT 9:00 AM AT RURAL HILL 4431 NECK ROAD HUNTERSVILLE |
| 12 NOV | HISTORY AND EDUCATION |
| 14 JAN | GOVERNMENT, CRIME, AND LAW |
| 11 FEB | COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE |
| 11 MAR | HEALTH CARE |
| TBD | GRADUATION |

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change the world."

**Margaret Mead**

"Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things."

**Peter F. Drucker**

Junior Leadership kicks off with a reception at the Chamber with the participants, Directors of the Chamber, Leadership Lake Norman Alumni, and various elected municipal officials. This is followed by a one day retreat combining team building and diversity training. The program continues for six months in one day sessions.

Area leaders are in business, government, media, education, health care, and tourism, enlighten the participants about the resources, infrastructure, and facilities available to Lake Norman citizens. During each session the group will look at topics ranging from crime to law and community infrastructures.











# Application and Criteria

Attendance Policy:

Junior Leadership Lake Norman participants must attend the retreat and graduation. ONLY one absence is allowed. Participants must attend at least four of five full-day sessions. Please mark program dates in your calendar and inform school staff. These attendance requirements ensure a valuable experience.

Dress Code and time:

Casual dress is recommended at all sessions with the exception of graduation. Typical day runs from 8 am to 2 pm with some sessions ending at 1:30 pm.

Tuition:

Tuition is $140, an investment in future civic and leadership opportunities to graduate and earn a certificate.

Selection & Applications:

The program accepts 21 participants, selected based on leadership potential and community involvement. Applications are due by September 26 at 5:00 pm and must be emailed to **Russell@lakenormanchamber.org**

All applicants will be notified of their acceptance status in writing by September 29 at 5:00 pm. For more details, contact Bill Russell at (704) 892-1922

LEADING TO CHANGE
WWW.LEADINGTOCHANGE.COM

# Requirements

- Minimum 3.2 unweighted GPA
- Exceptional attitude
- Permission to attend day long junior leadership activities
- Shown leadership in school or community
- Teacher/community leader of recommendation
- Rising juniors from any High School in the Lake Norman region (homeschooled students ARE allowed)

**Retreat Sponsor:**

THE McINTOSH LAW FIRM

Rural Hill

**Food Sponsors:**

TENDERS FRESH FOOD

# Benefits

Leadership Development

- **Learn** leadership styles and strategies
- **Build** confidence in public speaking, decision-making, and teamwork
- **Understand** your own personality strengths and how to collaborate with others effectively

Educational Experiences

- **Participate** in informative seminars on local government, business, healthcare, and more
- **Gain** insight into how the community functions from behind the scenes.
- **Learn** about career opportunities and what leadership looks like across different industries.

Community Involvement

- **Tour key facilities** around Lake Norman (e.g., government offices, nonprofit organizations, businesses).
- **Meet local leaders** and change-makers who are shaping the region.
- **Discover** how you can make a meaningful impact in your own community.

Networking Opportunities

- **Connect** with a group of like-minded, motivated students from different schools.
- **Build relationships** with professionals and mentors in the Lake Norman area.
- **Start growing** a professional network early—a valuable asset for future internships, jobs, or college applications.

College & Career Readiness

- **Strengthen** your college applications with a unique leadership program.
- **Demonstrate** a commitment to civic engagement and personal growth.
- **Gain real-world skills** like professional communication, time management, and goal setting.

Personal Growth

- **Develop** a vision for your future and how you can be a leader wherever you go.
- Leave the program feeling **empowered** to take initiative in your school, community, and beyond.

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP LAKE NORMAN

# APPLICATION CLASS XVI 2026–2027

## PERSONAL DATA:

Name_____
Last First Middle Preferred

Email Address_____

Home Address_____

Home Phone_____ Cell Phone _____

Current un-weighted GPA _____ Current weighted GPA (Optional) _____

## Parent/Guardian Data:

Name (First and last names)_____

Employment (Mom) _____ Cell _____

Employment (Dad) _____ Cell _____

In Case of Emergency call _____ Phone _____

## Sponsor Data

School Name and Address: _____

Principal / Guidance Counselor _____

I Recommend _____ for the LKN Jr. Leadership program

_____ _____
Signature, Principal/Guidance Counselor Signature, Teacher

## Personal Data (Please attach a separate sheet if needed):

School Activities / Clubs:

_____

_____

_____

NORTH CAROLINA LAKE NORMAN chamber of commerce

For more information, please contact
The Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce
P: 704.892.1922 Russell@LakeNormanChamber.org

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP LAKE NORMAN

# APPLICATION CLASS XVI 2026-2027

**Community Activities / Previous Volunteer Work**

_____

_____

_____

**Personal Accomplishments:**

_____

_____

_____

**Essay: Please attach a minimum 200 word (maximum 500 word) essay on the following topic: What does my community mean to me and what leadership can I provide to improve my community in the future?**

## Applicant & Parent / Guardian Agreement

I understand the purpose of the Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce Junior Leadership program and if selected, I will devote the time and resources necessary to complete the program. Even though emergencies do arise, any participant missing more than one session will not graduate from the program. I understand the above commitments and agree to them in this application.

_____

**Applicants Signature** **Date**

I understand the full requirements of this program and give permission to participate fully in the Junior Leadership program with the Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce.

_____

**Parent / Guardian Signature** **Date**

**Application deadline: September 26, 2026 5:00 pm**
**Email to: The Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce** **Russell@lakenormanchamber.org**

**Mail: Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce**
**PO Box 760**
**Cornelius, NC 28031**

**Personal Drop-off: Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce**
**19900 West Catawba Ave Suite 101**
**Cornelius, NC 28031**

*All applicants will be notified by Monday, Sept 29 by 5 pm about acceptance in the program. If you have not heard from a chamber official by that time, please call 704-892-1922.*

NORTH CAROLINA LAKE NORMAN chamber of commerce

For more information, please contact
The Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce
P:704.892.1922 Russell@LakeNormanChamber.org