

Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce



Why Leadership Sandpoint?

Sandpoint and the surrounding communities are dynamic. The energy and constant reshaping present many challenges and opportunities for the local citizenry. Keeping our communities vibrant and healthy requires visionary and thoughtful leaders who have the ability to communicate, be strategic, and work effectively with a wide variety of groups. LEADERSHIP SANDPOINT is designed to facilitate the development and growth of tomorrow's leaders and provide an opportunity to interact with diverse community members as the class explores the various roles of leadership and involvement in our communities.

GOALS OF LEADERSHIP SANDPOINT:

To identify, motivate, and develop the skills of current leaders.

To acquaint these identified leaders with community needs and opportunities.

To allow leaders to meet past and present leaders and be motivated toward greater involvement. To further facilitate community involvement by providing Board Training.

SELECTION AND TUITION

- **Applications**—Anyone interested in community affairs and learning more about the Sandpoint area is invited to apply.
APPLICATION DEADLINE: August 29, 2026.
- **Selection**—Candidates will be selected with a view toward establishing a diverse mix of ages, professions, activities, and outlooks as evidenced on the applications. Class size is limited to 20.
- **Deposit**—A **\$25.00 deposit must accompany all applications.** This deposit will be applied towards the tuition for successful applicants. Those not selected will receive a full refund of their deposit. The deposit will **NOT** be refunded after notification to successful applicants on or before September 4, 2026.
- **Tuition**—\$450 for Chamber Members, \$500 for non-members.
- Your tuition fee is payable upon notification of selection. Tuition covers the costs of the class sessions, lunches, materials, and, for select classes, group transportation. **Tuition must be paid in full by September 11, 2026, and is nonrefundable.**
- **Attendance**—Leadership Sandpoint consists of nine sessions the first year, and planning and facilitating sessions for the second year. Participants are expected to attend all sessions and **must not miss more than two sessions in order to graduate, excused or unexcused.** It is vital for both the individual and the class that each member be present to add their perspective. Graduation occurs at the end of year two.
- **Commitment**— **Leadership Sandpoint is a two-year commitment.** In addition to participating in their own class, graduates are responsible for organizing and facilitating at least two of the following year's class sessions. Training is provided for facilitators for the following year's classes.

CONTACT THE CHAMBER FOR MORE LEADERSHIP INFORMATION!

(208) 263-2161

2026—2027 SCHEDULE

One session per month, generally 8:00am—4:00pm (locations vary)

PROGRAM SCHEDULE (subject to change)

Leadership Sandpoint consists of 9 all-day sessions occurring on the 3rd Wednesday of each month starting in September. In year two, as a facilitator, you are expected to participate in a facilitator planning session to get a jump start in the next year's classes.

2026

Leadership Strengths & Teambuilding—September 16, 2026. Using team-building exercises and activities, the goal is to develop motivation, create a “team” atmosphere, become acquainted with classmates, and learn how to increase effective cooperation in the group. Remember, great teamwork makes things happen more than anything else in organizations.

The Cornerstones of Sandpoint—October 14, 2026. This session will provide an overview of the geological and political history of the region, and the important role the Timber and Rail industries have played in our economy.

Education & the Arts—November 18, 2026. We will focus on the diversity of educational opportunities and the lifelong pursuit of learning in our community, as well as explore the arts in our eclectic community.

Human & Community Services—December 16, 2026. Explore the variety of human and community services available in Bonner County and the challenges faced by service providers in meeting basic needs.

2027

Sustainability—January 20, 2027. Exploring our local sustainable businesses and other programs will help you discover the diverse efforts our community has put in place regarding sustainability. This class will explore different facets of what sustainability means.

Law Enforcement, Judicial System, Local & State Government—Feb 17, 2027. Representatives of local police and sheriff departments, as well as the local judiciary, will provide an overview of our law enforcement and the courts. Take part in an exchange with a variety of elected officials and discuss issues concerning their leadership and influence in our community.

Economic Drivers—March 17, 2027. The group will focus on an overview of our local economy including demographics, economic development, organizations, and manufacturing.

Health & Wellness—April 45, 2027. Focus will be on health and well-being. Discover the variety of services and the role of traditional and integrative health resources in our community.

Natural Resources & Tourism—May 19, 2027. Our quality of life is greatly influenced by our abundant natural resources. You will explore their roles in our past and future in maintaining our desired quality of life. In addition, you will also learn how tourism is managed for our region and state.

Planning Session for Next Year's Program—Date TBD The current Leadership Class will meet with a Chamber representative to review the program and work together to plan the next year's sessions. Your feedback and suggestions for improving the program is instrumental to the continued success of Leadership Sandpoint.

In addition to the class sessions, Leadership Sandpoint classes will plan and complete a community service fundraising project. Keeping our community vibrant and healthy requires insightful leaders who have the ability to communicate and work effectively with a wide variety of groups.

To further develop individual skills, which will lead to an enriched community, each class will include Board training and Leadership Skills Development training. Board training curriculum is based on, and adapted from, John Carver's *Policy Governance*. Leadership Skills Development training is based on John Maxwell's *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*.



For Chamber Staff Use Only

Deposit Received: \$ _____ date: _____

Payment Received: \$ _____ date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

(as you wish it to appear on name tags and class list)

Business or Association Affiliation (if any): _____

Complete business mailing address: _____

Complete home mailing address: _____

Where would you like your Leadership Sandpoint information sent? (please check one) ☐ Home ☐ Business

Business Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name and Phone No. of Emergency Contact: _____

Deposit: A deposit of \$25.00 must accompany all applications. Your deposit will be applied to your tuition if you are selected for the class and will be promptly refunded if you are not.

Tuition* (non-refundable): \$450 (Chamber members) or \$500 (non-members) due upon notification of selection (minus \$25 deposit). Accepted applicants will be notified by **September 4, 2026** Tuition must be paid in full by **September 11, 2026**.

How did you hear about the Leadership Sandpoint program? (please check one)

☐ From the media ☐ Through my company ☐ Through a mailing ☐ Through a club or organization

☐ From a friend ☐ From a Leadership Sandpoint Graduate (name) _____

Other: _____

Attendance Requirements: The Leadership Sandpoint program entails a **TWO-YEAR COMMITMENT**.

The first year consists of 9 all-day sessions, one each month from September through May. Class will be the third Wednesday of every month. It is vital for the class that you are present at each session to add your perspectives and to interact with your fellow classmates, as such, **you cannot miss more than two (2) sessions, excused or unexcused**. Anyone missing more than two (2) sessions will not be recognized as a Leadership Sandpoint Graduate the following year.

The second year consists of assisting with the facilitation and presentation of the first-year Leadership Sandpoint program for the class of 2027-2029.

Please review your calendar and consult with your employer about attendance commitments. Your signature below verifies, if accepted into the program, you agree to abide by the attendance requirements.

(Signature)

(Date)

*Payment arrangements can be made

Completion of the questions below is required for consideration of your application and for us to know more about you and your background. *(Please answer these questions on a separate document and attach to your emailed application submission.)*

- Please explain how you think Leadership Sandpoint can help you fulfill your own aspirations as a leader in the Sandpoint area.
- Please describe your most significant experience or accomplishment in a leadership role.
- What is your personal definition of Leadership?
- In one or two paragraphs, please describe your professional style and personality.
- Please list Sandpoint volunteer activities in which you are or have been involved.
- What volunteer work are you most proud of?
- Please attach a resume or other statement of your educational background and work history.
- Please attach two (2) letters of recommendation for your participation in the program.

**This is a program of
The Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce**



Please return your application to:
The Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce
P. O. Box 928
Sandpoint, ID 83864

Or send via email to
joan@sandpointchamber.com