**Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about Leadership Monterey County**

Congratulations on your decision to apply for Leadership Monterey County, a program of the Monterey County Business Council. You likely have questions about the program, so we’ve put together the following document to address those typically asked by applicants and participants.

**What does the LMC program consist of?**

The LMC program trains and develops local leaders through seminars on topical current events in Monterey County; hands-on learning in a variety of community-based venues; and interactive panels with leaders from business, government, public benefit, education and a variety of other sectors.

**When does the program meet? What topics will be covered at each of these sessions?**

LMC sessions will be held on the following days in 2023. Please note that programs are scheduled on the fourth Friday of the first nine months of the program (February – October 2023), and the third Friday of November 2023. In addition, we include the proposed focus for each session but note these topics are subject to change.

Friday, February 24, 2023: Hospitality

Friday, March 24, 2023: Education

Friday, April 28, 2023: Agriculture

Friday, May 26, 2023: Government and Law

Friday, June 23, 2023: Defense and National Security

Friday, July 28, 2023: Nonprofit

Friday, August 25, 2023: Infrastructure

Friday, September 22, 2023: South County

Friday, October 27, 2023: Art, Culture, and History

Friday, November 17, 2023: Healthcare and Graduation

**When does each day begin and end?**

Specific start and end times will vary from session to session, but in general plan for programs to start at 8 a.m. PST and conclude by 5 p.m. PST on the days and dates listed above.

**When do I receive an agenda for each session?**

Detailed agendas with times, speakers, and locations are typically emailed to LMC participants by no later than the Tuesday before the Friday program.

**Do I need to attend every session?**

We expect participants to arrange their schedules to permit them to attend each session, as outlined above. That said, circumstances sometimes force participants to miss individual sessions. If you plan to miss a session, you’ll need to notify the program facilitator as soon as possible.

**How many sessions can I miss?**

You can miss up to two sessions in order to graduate from the LMC program. If you miss three or more sessions, you will not graduate with your cohort although you are welcome to attend the remaining sessions. If you attend any part of a day, we count that as “in attendance” for graduation purposes.

**Can I “make up” a session I missed in order to graduate?**

You’re welcome to attend up to one session when it is offered in the subsequent program year on a space-available basis. Please note that in these instances participants are responsible for following up with LMC program staff to obtain the date, time, and locations of 2024 sessions. LMC asks individuals attending make-up sessions in 2024 to make a donation of $250 to the Leadership Monterey County program to cover the additional costs it incurs related to your participation (we included these costs into the fee paid by participants in the 2023 program).

**Cancellation / Tuition Reimbursement policy**

We understand that unexpected events may happen during the course of the program which may force you to withdraw early. Please understand that if you must withdraw, we are not able to invite another student to join the program. The following refund schedule will apply. Withdrawal prior to first class date, 100% refund. Withdrawal after first class and before 4th class session, 50% refund. Withdrawal after the 4th class session, no refund. Thank you.

**How will we get to individual program locations?**

Participants travel together by bus to different program locations. Our base is UC MBest Center, located at 3180 Imjin Road in Marina. We board the bus there in the morning on the dates indicated above, and are dropped off there at the end of the day.

**Is there parking at UC MBest Center?**

Free parking is available at UC MBest Center, and participants typically leave their cars there for the duration of program days.

**Can I arrange to carpool with other participants to UC MBest Center?**

Yes! You’ll receive a roster of LMC participants at the beginning of the program, which will include contact information for each individual. Please use that information to reach out to fellow participants to coordinate rides. Note this list should not be shared with anyone outside the LMC program.

**Do I have to ride on the bus?**

Yes. Traveling together by bus is an integral component of the LMC experience. It provides an opportunity to connect with your fellow participants as well as LMC program staff and board members who accompany the cohort.

**What happens if I need to arrive at a session late or need to leave early?**

Should you need to arrive at one of our Friday sessions late or need to leave early, and therefore won’t be able to ride the bus, you may drive your own car. You must notify the program facilitator that you’ll be doing so. You’re also responsible for arriving on time to different program sites and finding and paying for parking at each site (if necessary), the details on which will be included in the agenda for each session.

**What’s served for lunch?**

LMC typically arranges for sandwiches and beverages to be delivered to one of the program locations, for consumption on site. We do our best to honor special dietary requests, including for vegetarians.

**Can you accommodate my special dietary requirements?**

Yes! You’ll be able to choose from several lunch options, and at the same time can let us know if you have special requests so that we can share them with the lunch provider.

**Program Expenses**

The fee to attend the program is $2,000 per participant, which covers transportation to program venues, lunch, and other expenses associated with setting up the ten program days. These fees can be paid by the participant’s employer, a sponsoring organization, or the individual participant. Limited scholarship funds are available for those highly qualified applicants who can demonstrate no other source for the funds.

The entire $2000 fee is due upon the acceptance of the applicant and before attending the first session.

**Are there ways my organization can sponsor specific LMC activities?**

Yes! We offer a variety of ways organizations can financially support the LMC program. For more information on them, contact MCBC staff at (831) 216-3000 or by email at info@mcbc.biz

**I have an idea for a future LMC program or speaker. Who should I contact to explore further this matter?**

Please share this information with the program facilitator.

**Age and Other Applicant Requirements**

Participation in the Leadership Monterey County Program is open to anyone over the age of 18, regardless of creed, race, age, sex, philosophy or physical disability.

Applicants are not eligible if they have a felony conviction.

I have read and understood the aforementioned document and agree to follow the policies and procedures it lays out.

Participant Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_