
2026 Decatur Leadership Institute Application

SPONSORED BY:



Application Deadline: July 31, 2026

Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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Employer: _____

Employer Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Position/Title: _____ Years in Position: _____

Supervisor: _____ Phone: _____

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Please list any schools attended, field of study, professional institutes, or training programs:

Please attach the following to your application:

1. A copy of your professional resume.
2. A statement about what you hope to get out of the program.
3. A statement about what you feel you can contribute to the program.

DLI Alumni Sponsor (if applicable):

Please list your DLI Alumni sponsor.

Tuition:

If you are accepted into the Decatur Leadership Institute program, you or your organization will be billed for the tuition fee of \$750.00 (members), \$950 (non-members), which is due and payable in full by **August 17, 2026.** (see payment agreement.)

Please submit all materials to:

The Decatur Regional Chamber of Commerce
225 North Water Street, Suite 200
Decatur, IL 62523

Or email to: jackie.welch@decaturchamber.com

Graduation Policy

The Decatur Leadership Institute (DLI) is committed to nurturing the growth and development of future leaders through our program. To ensure the successful completion of the program and graduate from the Institute, students must adhere to the following policies:

- **Attendance Requirement:**
 - Students are permitted a maximum of two (2) absences throughout the duration of the program.
 - Any absence beyond this limit may result in dismissal from the program unless under exceptional circumstances, subject to the discretion of the program administrators.
 - In case of absence, students are required to notify the program coordinator or designated personnel in advance, providing a valid reason for their absence.
- **Evaluation Completion:**
 - Each student must complete evaluations for every session attended.
 - Evaluations serve as a valuable tool for both self-assessment and program improvement.
- **Active Participation in Team Project:**
 - All students are expected to actively participate in assigned team project.
 - Active participation includes contributing ideas, collaborating with team members, fulfilling assigned tasks, and attending project meetings.
 - Team projects are to be submitted to the Chamber no later than November 25.
 - Project presentations are scheduled for December 9.
- **Appeals Process**
 - Students who believe they have valid grounds for appeal regarding any aspect of the graduation policy may submit an appeal in writing to the program administrators.
 - The appeals process will be conducted in a fair and transparent manner, with decisions made based on the merits of each case.

The Decatur Leadership Institute is dedicated to providing a supportive and enriching learning environment for all participants. By adhering to these graduation policies, students demonstrate their commitment to personal and professional development, as well as their readiness to embark on leadership roles in their respective fields.

The DLI graduation luncheon is scheduled for December 9th at Richland Community College.

Photo Release Form

I hereby grant permission to the Decatur Leadership Institute, its employees, and authorized representatives to take photographs and/or videos of me during my participation in Decatur Leadership Institute programs, events, and activities.

I authorize the Decatur Leadership Institute to use and publish the photographs and/or videos in any format, included but not limited to print publications, websites, social media platforms, promotional materials, advertisements, and presentations, without compensation or acknowledgment to me.

I understand and agree that these photographs and/or videos may be used by the Decatur Leadership Institute for purposes such as publicity, advertising, and marketing, and that they may be shared with media outlets.

I release the Decatur Leadership Institute, its employees, and authorized representatives from any and all claims, demands, or liabilities arising out of or in connection with the use of the photographs and/or videos, including but not limited to any claims for invasion of privacy or violation of rights.

I acknowledge that I am at least 18 years of age and have read and understand the terms of this release.

Date

Full Name (Please print)

Signature

Company

Payment Agreement

Participant Name: _____

Party Responsible for Payment: ☐ Participant ☐ Employer

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

In consideration of the Decatur Regional Chamber of Commerce agreeing to provide the program listed below, the undersigned responsible party (herein "responsible party") agrees to pay the Decatur Regional Chamber of Commerce the sum of \$750.00 (members) \$950 (non-members), which covers all fees associated with the 2026 Decatur Leadership Institute program for the participant listed below.

Payment must be made in full no later than August 17, 2026.

I, the undersigned, understand and agree that removal or withdrawal from the program for any reason will not cancel the obligation described herein. The undersigned responsible party is accountable for full payment, regardless of the participant's completion of the program.

Participant Signature

Responsible Party

Please submit payment agreement to jackie.welch@decaturchamber.com or mail to the below address:

The Decatur Regional Chamber of Commerce
225 N. Water Street, Suite 200
Decatur, IL 62523