

# What is Youth LEAD?

Youth LEAD is a program designed to develop and prepare students for future community support and leadership roles in Paducah/McCracken County. Youth LEAD targets high school juniors in Paducah Independent, McCracken County Public, St. Mary and Community Christian Academy. The students spend one day a month for five months learning about teamwork, human needs and service learning, communications and career development, business and economy, law and government, and health care in Paducah/McCracken County.



Leadership • Education • Development

**YOUTH LEAD**

## 2021-2022 Program Dates

- **Opening Retreat/Class** – November 3, 2021
- **2nd Class** – December 1, 2021
- **3rd Class** – January 12, 2022
- **4th Class** – February 9, 2022
- **5th Class** – March 9, 2022
- **Graduation** at Paducah Chamber Breakfast – April 14, 2022

## Selection Process

Each school will review their applications and submit their chosen nominees to the Chamber. The applications will then be reviewed by a selection committee made up of representatives of the Leadership Paducah Alumni Association and Paducah Chamber Boards. Participants will be selected based upon the information provided in the application, the recommendation letters and quality of the applications. Youth LEAD is a competitive opportunity and it is anticipated that not all students who apply will be selected.

**COVID-19 Statement:** Every effort will be made to ensure the class is able to enjoy the full experience of Youth LEAD. Due to the unprecedented situation, some dates are tentative and subject to change. Some of the monthly tours may be impacted due to guidelines for gatherings and concerns by employers. Sessions will be adjusted accordingly. We will closely monitor the situation and follow all recommended guidelines. Please know every effort will be made to ensure the program is fulfilling and a great experience for all participants. The current plan is to meet in-person for these sessions. We will closely monitor and try to follow the same schedule as the schools.

## Other Important Facts

**Eligibility** – The program is open to high school students who are enrolled as juniors in the 2021-2022 school year.

**Application Availability** – Applications can be obtained from the high school counselors or from the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce website: [paducahchamber.org](http://paducahchamber.org), go to Programs, and then to Youth LEAD.

**Application Due Date** – The deadline to submit your application to your high school counselor is **September 24, 2021**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. It is the student's responsibility to have the completed application and two letters of reference to the school by the deadline.

**Fee** – A \$50 non-refundable participation fee for students selected is due by **October 29, 2021**. Scholarships are available for students with demonstrated financial need.

Youth LEAD is a program administered by the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce with assistance from the Leadership Paducah Alumni Association