

Name_____



**LEADERSHIP
CRAVEN**

CONFIDENTIAL APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete **all** sections. When answering questions, either use information about your current involvement in Craven County **OR** applicable experience from your former community. Only **complete** applications will be reviewed. Do **NOT** leave any questions unanswered. Limit answers to the space available. Application must be signed by both applicant and employer (where appropriate) and returned no later than **March 6, 2026**. Applications will not be accepted after the deadline date above.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Participation in LEADERSHIP CRAVEN is open to people living or working in the New Bern/Craven County area

In order to reflect the diversity of the community

- 1) We will attempt to seek representation from a cross section of the community to include people active in areas of business, education, the arts, religion, government, community-based organizations, and ethnic and minority groups.
- 2) will be mindful of multiple people from one organization or business and within a given industry.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Applicants must have full support of the organization or corporation they represent. Attendance at retreats and monthly sessions is **mandatory**. Please see page nine for further details.

NEW BERN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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**LEADERSHIP CRAVEN
CONFIDENTIAL APPLICATION**

(Please type)

I. PERSONAL DATA (For Chamber of Commerce Use Only)

Full Name _____

Name for Name Tag _____ Cell Phone _____

Home Address _____
Street or PO Box City, State Zip

Employer _____

Business **MAILING** Address _____
Street or PO Box City, State Zip

Business Phone _____ E-mail _____

Birth Date (m/d/y) _____ Sex _____ Place of Birth _____

Length of Residence in New Bern/Craven County _____

Hobbies _____

II. EDUCATION (College and advanced degrees or specialized training)

Name and Location of School	Dates	Degree	Major
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Academic Awards or Special Recognition _____

III. EMPLOYMENT

Present Employer _____ Since _____

Type of Organization _____

Title or responsibility _____

Briefly describe your responsibilities in your employment:

List previous employment in reverse chronological order (including active military duty):

Employer	Title/Responsibility	From	To
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What do you consider your highest career achievement to date?

(FOR SELECTION COMMITTEE)

APPLICANT #_____

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION

Why do you want to participate in Leadership Craven? What do you expect to gain from participation in the program?

In your opinion, what are three major strengths that the New Bern area has to offer?

What do you feel could be done to further develop one of these strengths?

What do you feel are the three most significant challenges facing the New Bern/Craven County area?

What do you feel could be done to address **one** of these challenges?

V. PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

List current or former Business/Professional Affiliations
(Do **NOT** include civic organizations, public office, or political activities).

Name of Group	Positions/Assignments	From	To
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IV. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

List current or former community, civic, religious, political, government, social, athletic, or other activities.

(Do **NOT** include business/professional activities).

Organization _____

Assignment/Position _____

Responsibilities _____

Dates:_____

Organization _____

Assignment/Position _____

Responsibilities _____

Dates: _____

Organization _____

Assignment/Position _____

Responsibilities _____

Dates: _____

If you have additional significant areas of active community involvement, please list below:

What do you consider your most important accomplishment in one of the above organizations?
Why?

How much time do you spend each month collectively on the activities listed above?

Feel free to attach an additional sheet with any information about yourself that might assist in the selection process.

VII. COMMITMENT: Participant and Employer

To graduate from LEADERSHIP CRAVEN, attendance at the retreats and issue sessions is **MANDATORY** (please refer to attendance policy on page 9 of the application). The program consists of 9 full-day issue sessions, opening and closing (*overnight) retreats at Camp Sea Gull and Camp Seafarer, meetings and/or activities (accumulating 100 points) designed to "Broaden Your Horizons." plus, four (4) hours of Community Volunteer work (does not include current nonprofit organizations you are already affiliated with) Volunteer hours must be contained to Craven County ONLY. Volunteer hours are separate and apart from Broaden Your Horizon points. The two may NOT be combined.

The following dates have been scheduled for the 2026 program:

March 22 & 23	Opening Retreat*	August 6	Health Services
April 2	Judicial & Law Enforcement	August 27	Human Services
April 3 or April 10	New Bern at Night**	September 17	Education
April 30	Gov't, Politics & Media	Oct. 8	Cultural Heritage History & Tourism
May 21	Environment	October 18 & 19	Closing Retreat*
June 11	Business & Economic Development	October 19	Graduation*
July 9	Military Affairs (subject to change)		

*Denotes Mandatory (No Exceptions)

** Denotes Choice of either date – Mandatory (MUST choose one date)–(7 pm. Until...)

I understand the purpose of the Leadership Craven program and, if selected, I will devote the time and resources necessary to complete the program. Even though emergencies do arise,
I understand that if I must withdraw from the program due to failure to meet attendance requirements (refer to cover page), no portion of the tuition will be refunded.

I understand the above commitments and
agree to be bound by them in signing this application.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY EMPLOYER:

Company/Organization_____

Person authorizing participation:

Printed Name_____ Signature _____

Title _____ Date _____

TUITION

The cost of participation in Leadership Craven is **\$700**, which covers all program costs, including some meals, materials and accommodations at the retreats. Upon acceptance into the program, either you or your employer will be billed for the tuition.

For additional information, call Teresa Suhrie at 637-3111 or email tsuhrie@newbernchamber.com

Please send tuition bill to:

☐ Applicant

☐ Employer

Mail completed application to:

Leadership Craven

New Bern Area Chamber of Commerce

Attention: Teresa Suhrie

P.O. Drawer C

New Bern, NC28563

OR: Email to Teresa Suhrie

tsuhrie@newbernchamber.com

DEADLINE FOR COMPLETED APPLICATIONS - March 6, 2026

Leadership Craven Attendance Policy

The success of this program depends, among other things, on the full commitment of each participant to punctuality and attendance at every scheduled program.

Tardiness, early departure, or interruption of the program for business or personal matters, including telephone calls (especially ringing cell phones) is disrespectful to the other participants and the speakers who are giving freely and willingly of their time. Cell phones may ONLY be used during breaks or lunch, at times when the presentations or programs have ceased. Each participant must recognize that every other participant has equally pressing business and personal responsibilities, making it necessary for every participant to plan carefully in advance in order to fulfill his/her obligations.

Late arrival, early departure, or lack of attendance during any part of a program will be considered an absence from that Leadership Craven session. There are NO exceptions!

Under extenuating circumstances (i.e. sickness, death in the family, etc.) **ONE** session may be missed with prior approval. Participants that miss **ONE** session will be required to complete **20** extra 'Broaden Your Horizon' points prior to the last session (**October 8, 2026**). If more than one session is missed (absence, late arrival, or early departure), participants must withdraw from the program. If an absence, early departure, or late departure is necessary, please notify Teresa Suhrie, Director of Membership Development & Special Events at (637-3111).

Additionally, attendance at the Opening Retreat and Closing Retreat are **MANDATORY**. **There are NO exceptions!** Participants must withdraw from the Leadership Craven program if they miss any part (or all) of the Opening Retreat or Closing Retreat. Any participant that withdraws from the program is encouraged to reapply for consideration for next year; however, there will be no refunds.

Accordingly, recognition as a successful participant of the Leadership Craven program, which includes a certificate of completion, is contingent on compliance with the above attendance policy and completion of a minimum of 100 Broaden Your Horizon points and four (4) hours of Community Volunteer work.

Tuition must be paid in full prior to the Opening Retreat and a signed copy of this policy must be returned to the Chamber prior to the opening retreat.

Employer Signature _____

Leadership Craven Participant Signature _____