

“The leadership academy was a terrific experience for me in so many ways, particularly the interaction with the other attendees. The leadership academy has given me an opportunity to examine and redefine my leadership style. I highly recommend this experience for others.”

*Michael W. Simpson CPA
Brinker Simpson & Co., LLC
Class of 2012*

*How do we bring out the **best** in ourselves, our people and our organizations?*

*How do we **inspire** collaboration, innovation and action?*

Leadership expert Peter Drucker once said, “Management is doing things right. Leadership is doing the right things.” Through the Foundation of the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce (FDCCC) Leadership Academy, participants expand beyond the management skills that make them effective at work to develop the leadership abilities that will help them inspire their teams and create innovation and opportunity in their organizations and the community. Most sessions of the Academy include panel discussions with Delaware County leaders who will share their leadership experiences and engage participants in discussions about trends and issues facing the County.

The Business Leadership Academy of Delaware County runs from September to June. Through a series of nine interactive sessions led by top professionals in a variety of fields, participants develop their leadership skills while learning about their community and issues facing Delaware County. Graduates will be recognized at the Chamber’s Annual meeting in June.

Established in 1989 and with more than **330 distinguished alumni**, the program lays a foundation for the importance and significance of service to the community. The FDCCC Leadership alumni hold County, State and Federal elected positions, lead non-profit organizations, corporations, or are small business owners.

Session One - September 15, 2016

Framework For Professional Development And Growth As A Leader

Participants will identify personal leadership goals and develop a career and leadership plan for implementation throughout the Academy. They will also be introduced to the expectations for the Academy.

Session Two - October 20, 2016

The Value Of Civic Engagement

Participants will learn about different types of civic engagement and determine their own civic engagement style. They will also learn how to create a stronger leadership pipeline within their organizations to develop leaders who are more engaged and better able to represent their communities.

Session Three - November 9, 2016

Networking, Communicating and Adapting to Change

Participants will explore their own communication and networking styles and develop their plans for engaging in more effective and intentional networking. They will also learn strategies for coping with constant change and for facilitating teams through the change process.

Session Four - January 19, 2017

DISC & Team Session

Attendees will take the DISC Personality Profiler and learn about how to use it for personal and team leadership development. They will also learn about strategies for running more effective meetings and for bringing out the best in their teams.

Session Five - February 16, 2017

Learning as Leaders—Learning from Challenges and Mistakes

During this session, participants will explore various strategies for life-long learning and development. They will also explore ways to bounce back from leadership challenges and mistakes.

Session Six - March 16, 2017

Management, Finances and Productivity

Financial stewardship is an important part of leadership and will be part of the focus of the day. We will also explore various productivity strategies and ideas for prioritizing and focusing on the work that really matters.

Session Seven - April TBD, 2017

Leadership in Government

Participants will travel to Harrisburg to meet with government leaders and discuss the importance of “getting involved in our communities” as well as tour the State Capitol.

Session Eight - May 18, 2017

My Growth as a Leader

Participants will present on their experiences and on how they’ve grown as a leader during the past 8 months.

Session Nine - June 21, 2017

Wrap Up & Graduation at Chamber Annual Membership Luncheon

Participants will meet to wrap up their learning for the year and to be recognized at the Chamber’s Annual Meeting.

