



Leadership Grand Strand Program 2026-2027 Confidential Application

Application Requirements:

1. All applications must be typed (go to LeadershipGrandStrand.com to download this application)

2. You are required to submit three letters of reference with your application*

*Only one of these letters may be from your place of employment. Your letters should come from three different businesses or individuals. Please do not include any additional supporting documents beyond the application.

*LGS Board of Regents members and facilitators are not allowed to write letters of recommendation.

3. Submit completed application packet including letters of reference by June 15, 2026:

via email to: LGS@VisitMyrtleBeach.com

OR mail to: Shannon Furtick, Executive Director

Leadership Grand Strand

PO Box 2115

Myrtle Beach, SC 29578

4. Please include detailed answers to the questions below.

Name:

Home Address:

City, State:

Zip:

Business:

Title:

Email Address:

Business Address:

City, State:

Zip:

Business phone:

Cell phone:

Gender Identity:

Length of residency along the Grand Strand:

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

One of the goals of Leadership Grand Strand is to develop and train potential leaders for the community. Please answer the following prompts in 300 words or less.

A. Please explain what you hope to gain if selected to participate in Leadership Grand Strand.

B. Tell us what you could personally bring to the Leadership Grand Strand program.

C. Define your concept of leadership.

II. ACTIVITY DATA

A. Major volunteer role at this time:

Organization:

Position:

Describe responsibilities:

B. Please list, in order of importance to you, up to five community, civic, professional, business, religious, social, athletic or other organizations of which you are or have been a member.

	Organization	Dates of Membership	Official Position
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

C. How much time each month do you commit to community, civic, professional and other organizations and activities?

D. On what community boards, committees, or groups would you like to become active? Identify or explain what you would like to accomplish in those groups.

E. If you have previously not had the time or interest to become actively involved, what conditions have changed that now enable you to seek involvement in the community?

F. What do you consider your highest responsibility or skill to date?

III. EMPLOYMENT

(Account for all significant employment)

Present Employer:

Date Began:

Present Title or Responsibility:

Since:

Previous Employment:

Employer

Responsibility

From – To

IV. EDUCATION

(Begin with high school, then college(s), business or trade schools and/or specialized training)

A. Name and City of School Dates (from-to) Degree Major

B. Special Awards, Honors, Prizes for Academic Performance

C. Extracurricular Activities and Special Honors or Awards for Leadership Activities

Have you previously applied for Leadership Grand Strand? Yes No If yes, what year?

TUITION

Tuition for the 2026-27 Leadership Grand Strand program is \$1,499.00, which includes the first six months of the Alumni Association fee. Cancellation after acceptance into program, but prior to retreat, results in forfeiture of 50% of tuition. No refund will be made if cancellation occurs during/after retreat. Tuition must be paid in full prior to program orientation. Do not include tuition with this application. If accepted, we will bill you for tuition payment.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Tuition assistance may be available through the Bill Pritchard Scholarship Fund, Bennie J. Swans Scholarship and Diana D. Greene Scholarship. Scholarship applications are available at LeadershipGrandStrand.com and should be submitted with this application if you are interested in being considered for an LGS scholarship.

____ I will need scholarship assistance.

Applicants for the Leadership Grand Strand program must have the support and commitment of their business. Even if sponsored by an organization other than their business, they must still have the support of their employer. Please indicate the name(s) of your employer and/or sponsor, as contact will be made to the person(s) for an endorsement as an indication of support for your participation in Leadership Grand Strand.

EMPLOYER:

Contact person:

Title:

Phone:

SPONSOR (if other than employer):

Contact person:

Title:

Phone:

I understand the purposes of the Leadership Grand Strand program and, if I become a participant, will devote the time and energy necessary to make it a successful experience. I also understand that my submission of the application does not guarantee my acceptance into the program. Furthermore, I understand that by submitting an application I may be submitted to a background check.

Signature of Applicant:

In the interest of adhering to our goal of keeping the program as widely based as possible, we would encourage only one immediate family member to apply in any one year.

CONTRACT: (please acknowledge each item with a check mark)

- I understand that Leadership Grand Strand is a 10-month instructional program demanding my attendance at not less than eight sessions to qualify for graduation.
- Session days are normally the first Thursday of each month and last from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Required sessions will be an orientation on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026, an out-of-town overnight retreat on Oct. 8-9, 2026 and the final session on Thursday, May 6, 2027.
- I understand that I will be responsible for participating in 75 hours of community service involvement during the LGS experience.
- I understand that on class session days I will not be allowed to utilize a cell phone, laptop or similar device (with the exception of authorized breaks).
- I understand that I will be required to dress in business casual attire (no jeans) for all class sessions.
- I understand that, if selected, I will be provided a name tag at orientation and will be required to wear the name tag at all LGS sessions.
- Non-adherence to these rules will result in fines and/or other penalties that will be explained on the first class session day.
- If selected to participate in the program, I agree to make all reasonable efforts to fulfill the requirements for graduation.

Signed:

DEADLINE: ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 15, 2026

All applicants will be notified of confidential acceptance, based on fulfillment of endorsement requirements or non-acceptance no later than July 24, 2026.

The Selection Committee of the LGS Board of Regents reserves the right to consider applications of candidates consistent with the bylaws thereof.

OPTIONAL INFORMATION:

Is your business an investor with the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce? Yes No
How did you become aware of the Leadership Grand Strand Program?

___ Friend ___ Business ___ LGS Alumni ___ Media ___ Chamber ___ Other