



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The L.I.F.T. Program (Leaders Impacting the Future Today) is a year-long leadership development initiative designed for emerging professionals in Carroll County. **Tailored to individuals who are preparing for the next level in their career**, this program offers participants a unique opportunity to enhance their leadership skills, expand their network, and advance their careers while learning from some of Carroll County's most experienced business and community leaders.

L.I.F.T. consists of one 2-hour session per month, focusing on topics crucial to those in the early stages of their professional journey. Participants will gain valuable insights into personal and professional growth, equipping them to make a significant impact in their careers and community.

Our program fosters a strong network of like-minded individuals who are committed to personal development and community involvement. If you are selected as part of our exclusive 20-person cohort, you will be responsible for attending all sessions throughout the year, ensuring a comprehensive and immersive learning experience.

Applications for the L.I.F.T. Program must be submitted to events@carroll-ga.org.

PROGRAM GOALS

- Develop leadership skills that are essential for early career professionals
 - Provide educational resources to navigate the challenges and opportunities of the modern workplace.
 - Foster a network of emerging leaders who are dedicated to making a positive impact in Carroll County.
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WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Early professionals who work for a Carroll County Chamber of Commerce member and are seeking to advance their leadership skills. The ideal candidate is eager to learn, grow, and contribute to their organization and community.

EXPECTATIONS

The L.I.F.T. Program requires a one-year commitment with monthly sessions designed to be engaging, informative, and practical. As a participant, you are expected to:

- **Attend all sessions.** Your full participation is crucial to the program's success and your personal growth. Missing sessions will diminish your experience and the experience of your cohort.
 - **Be fully engaged during sessions.** Focus on the content and discussions, minimizing distractions such as phone use. Breaks will be provided throughout each session.
 - **Connect with your cohort.** Building relationships with fellow participants is a key component of the L.I.F.T. experience. Take the time to network and form connections that will last beyond the program.
 - **Provide feedback.** Your input is essential for the continuous improvement of the L.I.F.T. Program. Post-session surveys will help us refine and enhance the experience for future participants.
 - **Enjoy the journey.** The L.I.F.T. Program is designed to be an enjoyable and meaningful experience. Engage with the content and your peers to get the most out of this opportunity.
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APPLICATION PROCESS AND TUITION

Applications for the L.I.F.T. Program must be submitted to events@carroll-ga.org by November 27, 2026 by applicants or their employers. With 20 spaces available, participants will be selected based on the strength of their application and their commitment to personal development. Your participation is not guaranteed and will be determined by the selection committee.

Carroll County Chamber of Commerce Member: \$300

**fees are used to cover the costs of materials, monthly program expenses.*

As a 2027 L.I.F.T. Program member, tuition is payable upon selection. Tuition must be paid in full before the first session on January 28. Tuition is non-refundable and non-transferable and is the participant's responsibility upon acceptance.

2027 TENTATIVE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

All sessions, aside from socials, will be held 8:30-10:30 AM unless otherwise noted. Session subject matter may change based on the schedules of presenters and guests.

Thursday, January 28	Personal Leadership: Self-Awareness & Self- Assessment
Thursday, February 25	Personal Leadership: Goal Setting & Personal Development
Thursday, March 25	Personal Leadership: Time Management & Productivity
Thursday, April 29	Executive Presence: Understanding Executive Presence
Thursday, May 27	Executive Presence: Building Confidence and Your Network
Thursday, June 24	Executive Presence: What It Means to Lead
Thursday, July 22	Effective Communication Skills
Thursday, August 26	Effective Communication Skills: Navigating Difficult Conversations
Thursday, September 30	Effective Communication Skills: Conflict Management Strategies
Thursday, October 28	Skills for Success Beyond Work: Fundamentals of Personal Finance
Tuesday, November 16	Skills for Success Beyond Work: Foundations of Decision-Making
Tuesday, December 14	Skills for Success Beyond Work: Problem-Solving Techniques

Please review all dates and give careful consideration to your availability to attend. If you know that you cannot participate in a session due to a conflict, please list the corresponding date(s):

Program Application

[illegible]

What are your career goals for the next 5-10 years?

What skills or areas of knowledge do you believe you need to develop to reach your career goals?

Describe a recent challenge you faced in your role and how you addressed it.

Why do you want to participate in the L.I.F.T. Program, and what do you hope to gain from it?

APPLICANT COMMITMENT FORM

I understand that completing the L.I.F.T. Program requires active and full participation. Unexcused absences will prevent me from finishing the program. I will demonstrate professional courtesy by being punctual to each session and focusing my energy on

I will meet the following L.I.F.T. Program expectations:

- Arrive for sessions promptly at 8:30 a.m.
- Actively participate and attend all sessions.

☐ Yes, I will fulfill this commitment!

☐ No, I prefer to delay participation in this program as I cannot meet this commitment.

Applicant Signature

Date

APPLICANT CHECKLIST

NOTE: The application will not be considered complete and will not be processed without the following information:

- The completed application.
- **A professional digital headshot.**

EMPLOYER AUTHORIZATION FORM

Applicant Name: _____

Company: _____

Supervisor Name: _____

Supervisor Email: _____

Supervisor Phone Number: _____

In what areas does the nominee need the most growth or development to achieve their career goals?

Why do you believe the nominee would benefit from participating in the L.I.F.T. Program?

Supervisor Signature

Date