



Developing Tomorrow's COMMUNITY LEADERS Today

SAYLA Academy ★ June 25 - July 1, 2016

Application Deadline ★ April 15, 2016

Youth Leader/Parent Orientation ★ April 28, 2016

Apprentice Presentation/Academy Graduation Ceremony ★ Fall 2016



SAYLA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization presented by the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce and funded by businesses and organizations serving as members of the chamber.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Seguin Area Youth Leadership Academy is to provide students with a theoretical and operational foundation in the essential skills, beliefs, and practices of leadership. Through their participation in the program, the students will be prepared to make a positive impact on the quality of life in our community.

■ Application Instructions

Application Deadline: April 15, 2016

Please review the following information before completing your application form. Attendance is expected at all events, so please make sure that you do not have any conflicts with the set dates before you apply.

Answer each question on the application. Limit answers to available space as no additional pages will be considered.

Type or print in black ink.

Four signatures are required. Applications must be signed by

- ★ applicant;
- ★ applicant's parent/guardian;
- ★ high school principal or assistant principal; and
- ★ high school counselor.

The completed application must be received by the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce office no later than **April 15, 2016**. Reference forms must also be received by the Chamber office no later than April 15, 2016. It is your responsibility to see that these forms are returned by the deadline. It is recommended that you supply each reference with a stamped envelope addressed to Seguin Youth Leadership Academy, Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce, 116 N. Camp St., Seguin, TX 78155.

■ Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Students who are sophomores (10th) or juniors (11th) residing in Guadalupe County are eligible to apply. Participants are chosen by the Selection Committee based upon the information provided on the application. The committee seeks a diverse group of students who demonstrate leadership potential and are motivated, creative, and interested in developing skills and a sense of community. The estimated value of the program tuition is \$500. Thanks to the generosity of community sponsors, students will attend for a \$50 fee (non-refundable). This amount will be collected at the Youth / Parent Orientation on Thursday, April 30.

Students must be willing to commit to attendance at all activities, and they must have all required signatures of permission. They must have passed every course the last semester prior to the application deadline.

OBJECTIVES

- ★ To identify students who have demonstrated leadership qualities or displayed a potential toward leadership
- ★ To select a class which represents a diverse group of students including gender, ethnicity, and geographic areas
- ★ To present in-depth programs to acquaint participants with community needs, opportunities, challenges, and resources, and to encourage interaction with community leaders
- ★ To understand the responsibilities of a leader and to develop skills in ethical decision-making
- ★ To foster opportunities for teamwork and collaborative problem solving

2016 Seguin Area Youth Leadership Academy Calendar

Friday, April 15.....	Application deadline
By April 22	Application Review/Youth Leader Selection
Thursday, April 28	Youth Leader/Parent Orientation
6 p.m.	Texas Lutheran University Tschoepe Hall
Saturday-Friday, June 25-July 1	Seguin Area Youth Leadership Academy
1:30-2:30 p.m., Saturday, June 25	Check-in – Texas Lutheran University Tschoepe Hall
Fall Date TBD	Seguin Area Youth Leadership Academy Apprentice Event
6 p.m.	Reception
6:30 p.m.	Presentation and Graduation – GBRA River Annex
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Academy Activities

- ★ Team-Building
- ★ Leadership Skills Development
- ★ Large and Small Group Discussions
- ★ Problem-Solving Challenges
- ★ Community Site Visits
- ★ Hands-on Project Management
- ★ Mentorships and Networking
- ★ Games, Movies, and Recreation
- ★ Community Project



Memories for a lifetime!

APPLICATION

About you

Name _____
Last First Middle Name you prefer to be called

School _____ Grade _____

Home Address _____
Street City State Zip

Sex (M/F) _____ Ethnicity _____ Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ E-mail address _____

Name of Parents/Guardians _____

Parents'/Guardians' Home Phone (Father) _____ (Mother) _____

Parents'/Guardians' Work Phone (Father) _____ (Mother) _____

1. Briefly describe yourself.

Program Consent

I understand & accept the requirements for Seguin Area Youth Leadership Academy. I will attend all activities.

Applicant Printed Name: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

School Approval

All applicants must have the approval of their school counselor and principal/assistant principal. The application will not be considered complete without their signatures below.

_____ meets the academic criteria of the leadership academy, upholds school behavior standards, and has good school attendance. I approve the application of this student for participation in the Seguin Area Youth Leadership Academy.

Counselor Printed Name: _____

Counselor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal/Asst Principal Printed Name: _____

Principal/Asst Principal Signature: _____ Date: _____

Applications and references must be received no later than **5 p.m., Friday, April 15, 2016**, at the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce, 116 N. Camp St., Seguin, TX 78155.

2. What are your educational and/or career goals?

3. In your opinion, what are the three most important characteristics of a leader? Why?

4. What do you hope to gain from your participation in this program?

5. What leadership role(s) would you hope to have in the future?

6. What two things concern you most about life in your community? Why?

Work Experience

Are you currently employed or will be employed during the dates of the program? _____

If so, where? _____ How many hours per week? _____

Will your work schedule and the leadership program schedule conflict? _____

What is your employer's or supervisor's name? _____

Extracurricular Activities/Organizations

Please list extracurricular activities in which you have participated in high school and organizations to which you belong.

■ Community Organizations/Activities

Please list community, volunteer and other activities and any honors/awards received.

■ Leadership Experience

List any leadership experience you have had to date.

■ Describe yourself using the scale:

1=Outstanding	2=Above Average	3=Average	4=Below Average	5=Unsatisfactory	
Character	1	2	3	4	5
Concern for others	1	2	3	4	5
Responsibility	1	2	3	4	5
Leadership	1	2	3	4	5
Curiosity	1	2	3	4	5
Initiative	1	2	3	4	5
Persistence & Drive	1	2	3	4	5
Ability to work with others	1	2	3	4	5
Oral communication skills	1	2	3	4	5
Written communication skills	1	2	3	4	5
Problem-solving skills	1	2	3	4	5
Interest in community affairs	1	2	3	4	5

CONFIDENTIAL REFERENCE FORM

Applicant must distribute a reference form to

- ★ one high school teacher;
- ★ one high school counselor or high school principal/assistant principal; and
- ★ one person other than school personnel not related to the applicant.

■ Applicant

Name _____

■ Reference

The student named above is an applicant for Seguin Area Youth Leadership Academy sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. We are aware of the time necessary to prepare this assessment and gratefully acknowledge your help.

Printed Name of Reference: _____

Position/Title: _____

School/Firm/Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street City State Zip

■ General Information

How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant? _____

What do you consider to be the applicant's primary talents and strengths?

Have you observed any problems with applicant's attendance, behavior, or reliability? If yes, please explain.

Please comment on the applicant's relationship with his or her peers.

EVALUATION

Please use the scale below to compare the applicant with other sophomores and juniors in high school that you have known. Circle 1 - 5. If unable to answer, circle N/A.

1=Outstanding 2=Above Average 3=Average 4=Below Average 5=Unsatisfactory

Character	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
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Optional Comments:

Signature of Reference:

_____ Date: _____

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