



Dear RGV Leadership Applicant,

The RGV Partnership was established in 1944 to engage influencers, decision-makers, and policymakers to advance the prosperity of the Rio Grande Valley. In 2014, the Board of Directors launched the RGV Leadership program to engage and educate leaders on the importance of collaboration and engagement across our four-county region.

The RGV Leadership program will begin its 9th annual 9-month educational program, promoting collaboration and discussion on the region's most pressing challenges and opportunities.

#### Program & Objectives

RGV Leadership strives to fulfill the following objectives:

- Build long-lasting relationships with leaders from across the RGV
- Engage class members with elected officials and stakeholders in a leadership position
- Have a deeper understanding & appreciation of the RGV's challenges and opportunities
- Engage in a group project - with a formal presentation at the end of the program
- Continued relationship with the RGV Partnership after graduation

#### Time Commitment

Time commitment is very important...timely attendance is required. The program begins with an orientation retreat in South Padre Island that will require a one (1) overnight stay; meals and hotel are included in the tuition fee.

(Retreat is scheduled to take place on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, and Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>)

After the retreat, you will be required to attend full-day sessions once a month, which will be on the third Friday of each month. Friday sessions will take place between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Some sessions will commence earlier or end later due to travel time.

#### Tuition

RGV Leadership is offered to participants at \$1,000 in tuition for Partnership members and \$1,500 for non-members. The tuition includes all program materials, class shirts, snacks, meals, overnight accommodations during the retreat, and some transportation. You can pay in full by the first meeting or it can be paid in three installments.

Thank you,

A blue ink signature of Deborah L. Cordova, consisting of a stylized 'D' followed by a cursive 'Cordova'.

Deborah L. Cordova, Chair RGV Leadership  
Walsh McGurk Cordova Nixon, PLLC

A black ink signature of Patrick McDonnell, written in a cursive style.

Patrick McDonnell,  
President VTXI

The logo features the letters 'RGV' in a large, bold, red font. The letter 'V' is stylized with a green diagonal stripe. Below 'RGV' is the word 'LEADERSHIP' in a smaller, red, sans-serif font. At the bottom, 'Class of 2023' is written in a large, bold, black serif font.

**Application Deadline: August 4th, 2023**

**PERSONAL DATA**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Years with Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Years in the RGV: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Education (Please include name of school, dates, and degree/major):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

Please list in reverse chronological order.

Employer	Title	Dates Employed
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES:**

Please list in order of importance to your community, civic, professional, business, religious, social, athletic, and other organizations of which you have been a member. (Add extra pages if additional space is needed)

Organization	Dates	Highest Official Position held

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

What community involvement are you most proud of?

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Identify any special honors or awards you have received.

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**GENERAL**

Why do you think you would make a good candidate for Rio Grande Valley Leadership?

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In your opinion, what are the most pressing challenges facing the Rio Grande Valley today?

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Why do you believe these challenges persist?

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What do you hope to gain from your Rio Grande Valley Leadership experience?

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## APPLICANT AGREEMENT

**Minimum of two letters of recommendation must be submitted. One of those letters must be submitted by your current employer.**

Rio Grande Valley Leadership is a 9-month program that includes a retreat in South Padre Island that takes place on Saturday, September 9th and Sunday, September 10th, 2023. Saturday night hotel accommodations are included in your tuition. Attendance at the initial retreat is mandatory for all class participants.

Following the retreat, an 8-month program will be in place that will consist of full-day sessions on the third Friday of each month. The sessions will be hosted across our four-county region. Each session will include group discussions and an opportunity to work on an assigned team project.

Missing the initial retreat or more than 2 sessions during the program will automatically terminate your enrollment. Three late arrivals or early departures, or combination of the two, will be cause for automatic dismissal.

Personal electronic devices must be turned off during meetings.

**I have read and understood all the above and hereby submit my application to Rio Grande Valley Leadership.**

Applicant's Signature

Date

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## EMPLOYER/ORGANIZATION AGREEMENT (must be signed if applicable)

This application has the approval of this applicant's employer, which includes the time required to participate in the program.

Employer's Signature

Date

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## TUITION

Tuition is \$1,000 for members and \$1,500 for non-members, which covers program costs for all sessions, including the Graduation Ceremony and Retreat. \*Tuition does not include the cost for the Austin trip. Tuition is non-refundable after the retreat has taken place.

## SUBMISSION

Please submit this completed application and two letters of recommendation to the following and a copy of your drivers license or identification card to:

Rio Grande Valley Leadership

P.O. Box 1499

Weslaco, TX 78599

Or email [bertha@rgvpartnership.com](mailto:bertha@rgvpartnership.com) with

RGV Leadership 2023 in the subject line.