



*Brought to you by Clemson Extension, The Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce and Francis Marion University*

# Apply Now!

## 2023-2024 Year

Applications are due by March 31, 2023.

*Junior Leadership Florence County (JLFC) is an ten-month program in which area high school sophomores and juniors are empowered to become trustees of the Florence County community. Throughout the ten months of the program students will learn a variety of valuable leadership skills including time management, community issue awareness, and business ethics. The program also provides training in the area of personal development, skills training, volunteering opportunities and team building. Another benefit of the program is the opportunity to gain new contacts through networking and relationship building.*

*In addition to the monthly class sessions, JLFC students will be required to complete a minimum of four community service hours.*

*The program is presented by the Florence County Extension Service, The Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce and Francis Marion University with the support from local businesses to provide professional personnel, facilities and other aspects of the sessions throughout the school year. Program leadership and staff attend all activities, functions and meetings pertaining to the program.*

*School administrators must endorse each candidate. Each student is also required to pay a \$75 commitment fee when selected. The commitment fee also provides each student with a SC 4-H membership.*

*Donations from civic clubs, companies, foundations and individuals make this program possible.*



**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**  
*College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences*



4-H is the youth development program of the Cooperative Extension Service, a nationwide partnership of federal, state, and county governments, and the private sector. 4-H Youth Development programs are offered on an age-appropriate basis to all youth, ages 5-19, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status.



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Dear Applicant:

Congratulations on your decision to apply for the prestigious 2023-2024 Junior Leadership Florence County Program! A maximum of 30 current high school freshman and sophomores from across Florence County will be selected to participate in this ten-month program during their sophomore or junior year.

Before beginning the application, please read the following information carefully and make sure that you do not have any conflicts. All applicants should confirm with a parent/guardian and school official before applying. The cost of the program is a \$75 commitment fee. If selected, the \$75 fee will be due by June 30.

**Eligibility:**

- Students must be classified as high school sophomores or juniors during the 2023-2024 school year.
- The program is open to public, private and home schooled students who live and/or attend school in Florence County.
- Students must be in good academic standing with their school and must have a written endorsement from their high school principal or guidance counselor as well as support of their parent/guardian.

**Student Commitments:**

- Both students and parents must review orientation information and sign a memorandum of understanding.
- Attend the mandatory opening retreat in July. *(We are waiting on the new school calendars to come out prior to setting the opening retreat date. Historically, the opening retreat has been held either the Monday-Tuesday the week before school starts.)*
- Only 1 excused absence will be allowed during the program monthly sessions. In order to graduate, all participants must attend at least 7 out of the 8 monthly sessions that are held on a weekday normally from 9-3.
- Students are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct during each session/activity/event.
- Each member must complete a minimum of 4 community service hours during the program year and report to the program coordinator. *(This will require time outside of the scheduled JLFC program dates.)*
- Applicants must have transportation to and from sessions noting that sessions will take place across the county.

**Application Requirements:**

- Fill out the application and supporting forms completely and return to the following no later than **March 31:**  
Junior Leadership Florence County Selection Committee  
c/o Clemson Extension Service – Florence County  
2685 S Irby Street, Suite K, Florence 29505  
OR scan & e-mail to [fpressl@clemson.edu](mailto:fpressl@clemson.edu)

**Selection Process:**

- All written applications will be reviewed by professionals from out of the Florence County area and the highest scoring written applicants will be asked to attend a 3-person interview. Members of the JLFC Advisory Board and local business leaders will serve as the interview panelists. Rubrics for both are attached.
- JLFC is committed to cultural and economic diversity and considers all students who have demonstrated leadership skills and talents.
- All applicants will be notified of the status of their application no later than May 31.

Good luck with your application, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at 843-687-8644 or email [fpressl@clemson.edu](mailto:fpressl@clemson.edu).

Warmest regards,

Freddricka L. Pressley

Florence County 4-H Youth Development Agent

# jr. LEADERSHIP

Florence County 4-H Program



The written application is worth a total of 50 points. Below is the rubric for the written applications:

<b>Organization &amp; Activity Score</b> _____ out of 15	<b>Short Answer Score</b> _____ out of 25	<b>Overall Spelling/Grammar/Speech</b> _____ out of 10
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The highest scoring written applicants from each school are invited to take part in a group interview. Three to four candidates will be interviewed each time slot with students rotating the order in which questions are answered out of fairness to all. Students should be prepared to answer normal job interview style questions. The interview is also worth 50 points and the rubric is below:

<b>First Impression</b> <i>(arrives on time, dressed professionally, appropriate greeting, etc.)</i>	_____ out of 10 maximum points
<b>General Attitude/ Personality/Enthusiasm</b>	_____ out of 10 maximum points
<b>Preparedness</b> <i>(understands the time commitments, responsibility of the program, etc.)</i>	_____ out of 10 maximum points
<b>Communication &amp; Ability to respond to questions</b> <i>(speaks clearly and professionally, listens attentively, engaging, originality, etc.)</i>	_____ out of 20 maximum points



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**Application Due Date: March 31, 2023**

*Please type your responses.*

Personal Information		
Name:		
Address:		
City:	Zip:	
Mobile Phone:	E-mail Address:	
Date of Birth:	Age:	Sex (Male/Female):
School Attending:	Grade:	
Name of Parent(s)/Guardian with whom you reside :		
Parent/Guardian's Mobile Phone:	Parent/Guardian's E-mail Address:	

*(A correct & working e-mail address is IMPORTANT: Most communication takes place electronically.)*

Organizations and Activities
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*Please list up to FIVE (5) school, volunteer, religious, social, ethnic, athletic, etc. organizations or activities with which you have participated during high school, in order of importance to you:*

Organization/Activity:	Year(s):	Position(s) Held:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

## Short Answer Questions

**Question 1: What is your definition of the word: LEADER?**

**Question 2: What career do you plan to pursue? What appeals to you about this profession?**

**Question 3: In your opinion, what is good citizenship?**

**Question 4: Why do you want to participate in Junior Leadership Florence County and what do you hope to gain from the experience?**

### Student and Parent Commitment

By submitting this application to the program, the applicant is indicating that he/she and their parent(s)/guardian(s) have read the rules and requirements and agree to adhere to them. We understand that the student will be required to make up any work that is missed according to school policies. We also understand that the student and a parent must attend the orientation and that each student is required to attend the opening retreat and at least six of the eight sessions in order to graduate from the program. Failure to meet the attendance policy will result in not graduating from the program and the commitment fee will not be refunded. We also understand that Junior Leadership Florence County is not responsible for transportation of students to and from the meeting sites. The program will only be responsible for transportation during each session.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Student Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/ Guardian Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*



## School Approval & Endorsement Form

*Please have your principal sign below.*

I approve of and recommend the participation of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Junior Leadership Florence County Program for the 2023-2024 school year. I understand that some of the sessions will take place during school hours and the sessions will be excused absences. However, the student will be required to make up class work that is missed according to the policies set forth by our school district.

By signing below, I also certify that the applicant is in good academic standing with our school and is capable and eligible to participate in this prestigious program.

Comments from Guidance Counselor or Principal:

Signature of Principal \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print:*

Name of Principal \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_