



LEAP into Sutter County Community Academy

Dear Applicant,

We hope you will *LEAP* into Sutter County Community Academy! Join us in the inaugural year, in the Summer of 2026, for the first ever program; to enhance the skills, resources and civic involvement of emerging leaders.

The *LEAP* into Sutter County Community Academy is a five week, three hours per week experience, where members will have the opportunity to engage in some of the best things about Sutter County. From a big fire truck experience to SWAT team tactics, local community members can join the Community Academy to go inside the operations that make Sutter County work. Up to 12 citizens can join us in our first academy, so don't hesitate to submit your application! Cost of participation is **free**. Each graduating class will get their own T-shirt and Board recognition, as they experience the difference between city and county operations and unincorporated areas.

The Academy schedule will include a three-hour session **once a week** to include a meal made by a locally operating business. Session schedules will include information sharing, a tactile tour or experience and a question-and-answer session.

Weekly Session Topics, as presented by County leadership, are Below:

1. Equipment, Skills and Safety: Sutter County Fire – How Sutter County Fire Rolls!
2. Equipment, Skills and Safety: Sutter County Sheriff's Department – Tails, Tactics & Teamwork!
3. Equipment, Skills and Safety: Ag: Supporting Sutter County's Agriculture and Local Economy – Programs that Protect Agriculture, Ensure Equity in the Marketplace, and Support the Community.
4. Arts, Culture and Literacy: Sutter County Library: Beyond Books: Tools, Tech, and Transformation.
5. The Mighty Dollar - See where public funding comes from, the challenges it faces, and how smart planning keeps essential services running — featuring a game-show-style challenge with prizes.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the program and/or application process. We look forward to your application.

Steven M. Smith
Sutter County Administrator
1160 Civic Center Blvd., Suite A
Yuba City, CA 95993
(530) 822-7100

L: Lead
E: Engage
A: Access
P: Participate

Each LEAP into Sutter County Community Academy application is evaluated by a selection committee. Applications will be scored against the following rubric: Leadership skills = 20%, community involvement = 25%, diversity = 15%, goals = 20%, and overall impression = 20%. Final selections for the 2026 LEAP into Sutter County Community Academy will be made following a panel interview.

I. Personal Information – Please complete all fields

Last Name	First Name	Middle
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Preferred First Name	Years in Sutter County
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Home Address	City/Zip Code	Phone #
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Present Employer	Position/Title	Email
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Business Address	City/Zip Code	Phone #
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Hobbies/Interests

II. Education

Briefly describe your educational background, including degrees awarded, field of study, professional institutes, training programs, vocational programs, trade schools, etc. Include special honors and awards that you are proud of.

III. Career Experience

Share with us your field of work, and why you chose that field of work.

IV. Accomplishments

List your three most important accomplishments and why you consider them as such.

V. Community Involvement

List current and past civic, professional, religious and other organizations in which you are or have been involved. Indicate office, committee or leadership position and the timeframe. Participation in other communities may be included.

VI. Goals

List up to five things you most want to accomplish personally or professionally during the next five years?

If you are selected to participate, what do you hope to gain from your LEAP into Sutter County Community Academy experience, and how do you expect to utilize what you learn?

Given the opportunity to influence a significant change in Sutter County, what is one issue you would address? What approach might you take?

VII. Applicant Academy Terms

LEAP into Sutter County Community Academy is a five-week, 3-hours per week, program. Full participation is encouraged. The program opens with an orientation (via Microsoft Teams), July 8, 2026. Topic days are scheduled beginning Wednesday, July 15, 2026 and continuing each Wednesday through August 12, 2026 from 5:30pm until 8:30pm.

If you are unable to make this commitment, please consider future academies.

By signing this document, I acknowledge the foregoing conditions for participation in LEAP into Sutter County Community Academy. Additionally, I agree to being filmed and/or photographed during the LEAP into Sutter County Community Academy, and the resulting assets may be used for Sutter County marketing or promotional purposes. This application allows Sutter County to use and share photos, videos, and other recordings without compensation. By signing this application, I waive approval rights and liability claims.

Applicant's Signature Date

Waiver: I, intending to be legally bound, do hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and/or administrators, waive, release and forever discharge any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against LEAP into Sutter County Community Academy and Sutter County, and any and all employees, representatives, agents and heirs for any and all injuries that may be suffered by me at or en route to or from functions.

Applicant's Signature Date

VIII. Recommendations

List two business or personal references who can be contacted by the selection committee.

Name Position in the Community Phone #

Name Position in the Community Phone #

T-Shirt Size (mark one): **Small** **Medium** **Large** **XL** **XXL** **3X** **4X**

Deadline - Completed application must be received by **May 1, 2026**. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Email to lbush@co.sutter.ca.us or mail to: Sutter County Administrator's Office, 1160 Civic Center Blvd., Suite A, Yuba City, CA 95993

