



Dear Student:

Thank you for your interest in participating in FORERUNNERS. You **MUST** be a current junior to apply for the program. Attached is the application, which must be completed in its entirety and received, along with a \$125.00 participation fee and a 4 x 6 picture of applicant, **no later than December 6th, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.** Please make checks payable to The Chamber of Commerce. If you are not selected for the program, the fee will be returned to you.

The interviews will be held in February 2023. If you are selected for an interview, you will be emailed by January 10th. At that time, you can call or email to schedule your interview. The interviews will be conducted between 2:00 & 5:00 p.m. in 20-minute intervals and all interviews **MUST BE** in person. We will not call you to schedule your interview, nor will we allow you to schedule an interview after the deadline. If you call and I am not available, please leave your name, number, school and your preference for an interview date/time and I will return your call. You can e-mail me at alicia@westalabamachamber.com or call me at 205-391-0561.

The class will include students from the public and private high schools of Tuscaloosa County. If you are selected and then change schools, you must notify me immediately. Make sure your application is legible and complete. When choosing your teachers for references make sure they know the importance of the deadline. Acceptance notifications will be sent by email at the beginning of March.

FORERUNNERS 2023 will be June 5th – June 8th from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm at various locations within the community. Transportation to the various locations is the responsibility of the participant. You will also be required to have 4 volunteer hours completed at a participating local non-profit by Friday, May 12th 2023. A list of non-profits and a completion form will be provided upon acceptance into the program.

The Chamber is located at 2222 9th Street Tuscaloosa, AL 35401. If you are mailing your application, please use correct postage.

Again, thank you for your interest in FORERUNNERS, and we look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

Alicia Gregory
Director of Membership Engagement
alicia@westalabamachamber.com
205-391-0561



APPLICATION

A Leadership Program Coordinated by The Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Name you prefer to be called: _____ Home/Cell Phone: _____

Gender: _____ Race: _____ Birthdate: _____ Birthplace: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION:

Name of High School: _____

Grade you are currently enrolled in: _____

ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES:

Please list in order of importance to you: School, Volunteer, Religious, Athletic or other Activities or Organizations in which you have participated during the last two years.

<u>ORGANIZATION/ACTIVITY</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>POSITION HELD</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

How much time do you commit to these activities each month? _____

What do you consider your most important achievement so far? _____

List up to three special awards, honors or recognitions for academic, school or community related activities you have received:

Main area of interest in studies: _____

WORK EXPERIENCE

List any part time job experience, paid or volunteer, and briefly tell what it involved: _____

GENERAL INFORMATION (Use additional sheets if necessary)

A. Why do you want to participate in FORERUNNERS? _____

B. What do you feel are the most significant problems facing Tuscaloosa County? (limit to three)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

C. What do you feel needs to be done to address one of these issues? _____

D. What are the most notable opportunities which you believe the Tuscaloosa community has to offer? (limit to three)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

E. What are two important issues facing teenagers today?

1. _____
2. _____

F. What are your long range goals; what role do you see yourself in seven years from now? (whether school, business, politics, community)

G. What do you think are the most important characteristics of a leader?

REFERENCES

Please give a reference form to two (2) of your *high school teachers*. You may include teachers from your previous (freshman or sophomore) year. Other references will **NOT** be accepted (youth ministers, elementary school teachers, employers, family friends, etc.)

1. Name of first reference: _____

Subject: _____ Telephone #: _____

2. Name of second reference: _____

Subject: _____ Telephone #: _____

YOUR REFERENCES MUST BE RECEIVED BY December 6th AT 4:00 pm. PLEASE MAKE SURE THE ABOVE INDIVIDUALS ARE VERY AWARE OF THE DEADLINE. YOUR REFERENCES CAN BE MAILED, EMAILED TO alicia@westalabamachamber.com BUT THEY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE FOR ANY REASON.

COMMITMENT

To complete the FORERUNNERS Program a participant is required to commit to attend the entire length of the program and to complete at least four (4) volunteer hours at a participating local non-profit organization (an approved list will be provided). The volunteer hours must be completed in the time frame of January 1 – May 12, 2023 and a completion of hours form must be submitted to alicia@westalabamachamber.com by May 17th, 2023.

I agree with the attendance policy and commitment.

Student Signature

As a parent or guardian of the above applicant, we approve of his/her participation and commitment to FORERUNNERS.

Parent/Guardian Signature

SCHOOL COMMITMENT

The applicant has approval from this school to participate in FORERUNNERS.

Verify B Average (3.0/4.0 GPA) _____

Authorized Signature, **Principal** (must be school principal, please print and sign) Date

Principal's Comments:

Application and fee should be mailed to:
Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama
P.O. Box 20410
Tuscaloosa, AL 35402

Please make check payable to:
Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama

*There are limited scholarships available. If financial assistance is needed, please contact me directly.



REFERENCE FORM
Please print. Do not type.

Applicant Name

First _____ Last _____

TO THE REFERENCE:

The student above is an applicant for FORERUNNERS. The selection committee attaches considerable weight to the statements made by references of the applicant. The committee is aware of the time necessary to prepare such an assessment and gratefully acknowledges your help.

This form must be received by no later than December 6th, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Student application will be considered incomplete without it. You can return it to the applicant or email it to alicia@westalabamachamber.com.

Your Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

School/Organization: _____

1. For how long and in what capacity have you known the applicant? _____

2. Please use the scale below to compare the applicant with other high school sophomores you have known.

Character	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Dependability	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Leadership potential	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Teamwork	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Oral communication	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Persistence & Drive	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Community interest	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Ability to explore problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor

3. What do you consider the applicant's primary talents or strengths? _____

4. What do you consider the applicant's chief weakness? _____



REFERENCE FORM
Please print. Do not type.

First _____ Last _____

TO THE REFERENCE:

The student above is an applicant for FORERUNNERS. The selection committee attaches considerable weight to the statements made by references of the applicant. The committee is aware of the time necessary to prepare such an assessment and gratefully acknowledges your help.

This form must be received by no later than December 6th, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Student application will be considered incomplete without it. You can return it to the applicant or email it to alicia@westalabamachamber.com

Your Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

School/Organization: _____

1. For how long and in what capacity have you known the applicant? _____

2. Please use the scale below to compare the applicant with other high school sophomores you have known.

Character	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Dependability	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Leadership potential	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Teamwork	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Oral communication	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Persistence & Drive	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Community interest	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor
Ability to explore problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Exceptional	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Average	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor

3. What do you consider the applicant's primary talents or strengths? _____

4. What do you consider the applicant's chief weakness? _____



PERMISSION FORM

I, _____, parent/guardian of _____, hereby give my permission for him/her to participate in the activities sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama. I understand such activities may include, but are not limited to, classes, field trips and lectures. I represent and agree that my child/ward is physically fit with no known medical conditions or disabilities that would prevent or impair his or her ability to engage in the activities associated with this program. I understand that my child will be arriving on time and will have transportation to each session. I hereby agree to, on behalf of myself and my child/ward, hold the Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama and its affiliates and associates harmless from any liability arising out of my child's/ward's participation.

Done this _____ day of _____ 20__.

Signed: _____
(Parent/Guardian)



Emergency Contact Information

Student Full Name: _____

High School: _____

Emergency Contact #1

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to student: _____

Emergency Contact #2

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to student: _____