



IGNITE ST. MARY APPLICATION GUIDE

ABOUT IGNITE ST. MARY

The Chamber's flagship leadership initiative is back with a new name and a bold new vision. Ignite St. Mary is a year-long program designed to develop, inspire, and connect community-minded professionals. Through hands-on leadership training, behind-the-scenes tours, and conversations with leaders in business, government, healthcare, education, and industry, participants gain the tools, confidence, and connections to make an impact today and shape the future of St. Mary Parish.

INSTRUCTIONS

Your journey to Ignite St. Mary starts here. Complete each section fully. If something doesn't apply, write NOT APPLICABLE and add a short explanation. Keep your answers within the space provided, no attachments allowed. Don't forget to sign and return your application by the deadline listed in the cover letter.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Ignite St. Mary is open to professionals who live or work in St. Mary Parish. Each class will include approximately 20 participants. Because space is limited, applicants not selected are encouraged to reapply in future years.

Participants will be chosen by the Ignite St. Mary Selection Committee based on the information provided in this application. We seek a diverse group of individuals who reflect the leadership potential and community spirit of St. Mary Parish. Ideal candidates are active or emerging leaders in business, education, healthcare, government, the arts, religion, media, law, industry, nonprofits, and other community organizations.

Applicants must have the full support of their employer or sponsoring organization to participate.

DEADLINE & SUBMISSION

The total program cost is \$750.

Deposit: Applications must be submitted with a \$100 due with application by December 15, 2026.

Early Discount: If your application is received before November 30, 2026, you'll receive a \$50 discount; lowering your remaining balance to \$600.

Balance Upon Acceptance into program: \$650 (or \$600 if early registration discount is applied).

Payment plans are available.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All application materials will remain confidential and will only be reviewed by the Selection Committee.
Complete only those items that apply to you. Leave others blank. Do not attach resumes or additional pages.
Please print legibly or type.

I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____
Last First Middle Nickname

How would you prefer your name to appear in the press? _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home/Cell Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____ Fax: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____ Race: _____

Business: _____ Business Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

How long have you lived/worked in St. Mary Parish: Years: _____ Months: _____

Spouse's Name: _____
Last First Middle Nickname

Spouse's Occupation or Employment: _____

II. EDUCATION

College: _____

High School: _____

Other: _____

List any activities, offices and recognitions for special contributions during your educational years:

III. **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Include civic, religious, political, government, social, athletic, or other activities. Do not include business/professional activities. Indicate major role in the organization(s) at this time.

Organization: _____

Assignment/Position: _____

Describe Responsibilities: _____

Organization: _____

Assignment/Position: _____

Describe Responsibilities: _____

Organization: _____

Assignment/Position: _____

Describe Responsibilities: _____

If you have additional significant community, civic, religious, government, political, social, athletic, or other areas of active involvement, please describe below.

Are there any important contributions or achievements in any of the above which you consider significant, and what was your role in the accomplishment?

IV. **EMPLOYMENT**

Present title or position, if employed or self-employed (if not employed skip to V.):

Briefly describe your responsibilities in your present employment:

Which of the following categories best describe your present position? (please circle)

Social Service

Government

Labor

Religion

Business & Industry

Media

Education

Medical

Law

Business/Professional Affiliations (if any), not including civic organizations, public office, or political activities:

Name of group

Positions Held or Assignments

Period of Affiliation

Describe what you believe to be your most significant contribution to the community (include former communities).

What would you like to contribute to St. Mary Parish and your local community?

What do you hope to gain from participation in IGNITE ST. MARY?

V. **COMMITMENT TO PROGRAM PARTICIPATION**

The IGNITE ST. MARY program consists of an opening and/or closing retreat, and eight full-day programs scheduled on weekdays about one month apart. Locations of the programs vary throughout the Parish. Attendance at the Opening Social, Leadership Seminar, Closing Social, and Graduation is mandatory. More than the equivalent of two (2) absences from regular monthly sessions may result in withdrawal from the program with no refund. Leaving early or arriving late for a regular session will count as a half-day absence. Absences must be approved by Chamber President, Beth Chiasson.

Do you have the full support of your employer for the time required to participate in Ignite St. Mary this year?

Yes _____

No _____

I understand that to graduate from IGNITE ST. MARY, attendance at the opening retreat and a minimum of 7 of the 8 full-day programs is **required**.

Yes _____

No _____

If you cannot fulfill this attendance requirement but feel there are extraordinary circumstances, please explain:

IGNITE ST. MARY is limited to approximately 20 participants per year. If you are not accepted to the current leadership class, would you consider re-applying for the following year's classes?

Yes _____

No _____

If personal or employment circumstances limit your possible participation in the current class, please explain.

Polo Shirt Size: Ladies - S M L XL XXL _____ Men - S M L XL XXL XXXL _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Submit your application with a \$100 deposit by December 15, 2026.

The total program fee is \$750. Upon acceptance, the remaining \$650 balance will be due. (Payment plans are available.)

Early Registration Bonus: Submit your application before November 30, 2026, and receive a \$50 discount, bringing your total program fee to \$700 and your remaining balance to \$600 after the \$100 deposit.

Mail application and payment to:

Leadership St. Mary
727 MYRTLE STREET
MORGAN CITY, LA 70380

Applications can also be emailed to info@stmarychamber.com

985-384-3830 | 727 MYRTLE STREET MORGAN CITY, LA 70380
INFO@STMARYCHAMBER.COM | WWW.STMARYCHAMBER.COM