

“What’s in it for me?”

Exploring the more tangible benefits
included in your Chamber membership



Website

In today's business world, everyone needs to have a presence on the internet. Your Chamber membership entitles you to:

- Your business information listed online on www.dcc.org.
- A link to your website from our online membership directory.
- Username and PIN to access the Member Information Center (MIC), where you can post news, events and unlimited job openings to www.dcc.org (subject to Chamber staff approval).

Printed Business Directory

As a current member, your business is automatically listed alphabetically in our *Discover Decatur-Morgan County Membership Directory and Community Guide* as well as the business category of your choice.

Ribbon Cutting

The Chamber celebrates new businesses, grand openings and relocations to give added exposure to our members. These events are promoted on our website, shared in our newsletter and featured on our social media platforms, along with photos and your business information.

Athens State University Tuition Discount

Through our learning partnership with Athens State University, member businesses, their employees and immediate family members receive a 10% tuition discount. Additional benefits include a waived application fee and a complimentary evaluation of previously earned educational credits and training/professional certifications for consideration of transfer credits.

Networking Opportunities

The Chamber offers numerous events where you can network with other member businesses. By networking, you can develop partnerships, support other businesses and grow within the community. Chamber Commodores serve as mentors to new members, ensuring you always have a support system to help when needed.

Member Referrals

Word of mouth is one of the most effective forms of advertising. We receive countless inquiries for businesses like yours and are proud to recommend our members to potential customers. Referrals are made via telephone, mail, email and walk-in visits.

Professional Development

The Chamber offers a range of professional development events designed to help employers and employees acquire or enhance the skills essential for effective business operations. Our leadership programs also provide networking opportunities that equip professionals at all levels with valuable resources.

Marketing Opportunities

During our Total Resource Campaign each fall, you have the opportunity to showcase your products and services to other members at networking events like Coffee & Cards, Breakfast & Biz and more! Additional opportunities to promote your business are available such as the Member Spotlight segment on our website.

Market to Your Fellow Members

If you participate in direct mail campaigns or need to send a special message to your fellow Chamber members, our mailing list is right at your fingertips. Mailing lists can be emailed to you in an excel spreadsheet at no cost. Another member benefit is our monthly e-blast called "Friday Fliers". It features embedded PDFs that members provide highlighting their goods, services and contact information.

"Meeting" Your Needs

Renting meeting spaces can be costly. As a Chamber member, you can reserve our "Contractor Service & Fabrication, Inc." boardroom or our River City Electric conference room during Chamber office hours (subject to availability and approval).

Stay Updated with Latest Business News

Stay informed on important business and economic issues, Chamber news and activities, upcoming events, available resources and helpful business tips with our weekly e-newsletter, *Your Chamber Connection*. The newsletter is sent every Wednesday to more than 2,500 Chamber members.

A Collective Voice for Business

Our involvement in areas such as workforce development, education, minority development, public policy and leadership allows you to have an active role in issues that directly impact your business. We work directly with local, state and federal leaders to make sure the voice of our local business community is heard through our Public Policy Agenda developed by Chamber members each year.

Reduced Advertising Rates

Only Chamber members can advertise in our printed *Discover Decatur-Morgan County Membership Directory and Community Guide*, as well as our Decatur-Morgan County Street Map and Guide, both of which are also featured on our website, www.dcc.org.

Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce

256-353-5312



www.dcc.org

Why Join the Chamber?



Scan for
Application

Member Exclusive Benefit: *Ribbon Cuttings*



A ribbon cutting ceremony is a valuable part of your overall marketing strategy and a great way to celebrate the opening of a business. It provides an opportunity to connect with key community leaders, neighbors, Chamber members and potential customers. As a member benefit, the Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce is happy to assist you in planning a successful event for your business.

Why schedule a ribbon cutting?

- Welcome as a new Chamber member and/or celebrate a Grand Opening
- Celebrate a milestone anniversary (10, 20, 30 years, etc.) or special achievement
- Introduce a new service or product
- Highlight a remodel, expansion or new location

What are the benefits of a Chamber ribbon cutting?

- Increase awareness of your products/services among the public and Chamber members
- Promote your physical location to the community and Chamber members
- Generate leads and sales from attendees
- Event Photo is featured on all Chamber social media platforms including Facebook and Instagram
- Receive digital copies of your ribbon cutting photos for promotional use

Who is invited to a ribbon cutting?

The Chamber will invite its Board of Directors, staff, Commodores, government officials and media. Your event announcement will be listed on the Chamber's website and social media platforms. It will also be included in our weekly e-newsletter, *Your Chamber Connection*. We encourage you to invite additional guests, such as:

- Neighbor businesses
- Existing customers and prospects
- Suppliers
- Personal friends and family
- Professional partners such as accountants, attorneys and bankers

What happens at the ribbon cutting?

The Chamber provides the ribbon and ceremonial "big" scissors. The group will typically gather in front of a sign or another prominent location for several photos. Before the ceremonial ribbon cutting, Chamber representatives will speak. We also encourage you to use this time to say a few words about yourself and your business. It is up to you what other activities occur at your event. The event can be as simple as a photo opportunity or include refreshments, business tours or special promotions, depending on your preferences and budget.

How do I schedule a ribbon cutting?

Simply contact the Chamber to arrange a date. Ideally, schedule your ribbon cutting at least two weeks in advance. Ribbon cuttings are typically held Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. While we will make every effort to accommodate your preferred time, an alternate date may be necessary based on availability.

***For more information or to schedule your ribbon cutting, please contact
Alex King at the Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce.
256.353.5312 or alex@dcc.org***

Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce Membership Application



Firm/Company Name

Year Established in Decatur/Morgan County

Physical Address

City

State

Zip

Mailing Address (if different)

Billing Address (if different)

Phone

Fax

E-Mail Address (example - john@aol.com)

Web Site Address

Facebook Address

LinkedIn Address

Name of Primary Contact Person

Title

Phone

Email

Additional Representatives to receive Chamber correspondence: (List any additional names on a separate sheet of paper)

Name (Additional #1)

Title

Phone

Email

Name (Additional #2)

Title

Phone

Email

Would you like to receive your invoice by mail or email? _____

Type of Business

Full-time employees

Part-time employees

Investment:

Total Annual Investment \$ _____

I prefer to pay by:

☐ Check # _____

☐ Bank Draft: See next page, for questions call Leissa Hill at (256) 353-5312

☐ Credit Card Type: _____

Account No: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Billing Address: _____

Security Code: _____

Being in agreement with the policies and goals of the Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce, I agree to invest the amount in the Chamber.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

**Please remit to: Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce | PO Box 2003 | Decatur, AL 35602-2003
or fax to: (256) 353-2384. For questions about membership, call (256) 353-5312**

For Chamber use only

Entered in ChamberMaster // New member packet mailed or delivered_

Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce
PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT (accompanies Membership Application)

Firm/Company Name

Print Individual Name Email Address

Signature Date Phone

Credit Card Authorization:

Name on Card Type of Card Billing Zip Code

Card Number Expiration Date \$ Amount to Charge

Security Number on back (if AmEx, 4-digits on front): Emailed Receipt? Yes No

Direct Payment/ACH Debit Authorization

I/we hereby authorize Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce, hereafter called CHAMBER, to debit entries to my/our account indicated below and the financial institution named below, hereinafter called FINANCIAL INSTITUTION, to debit the same to such account. I/we acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my/our account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

Financial Institution Name Branch

Street Address City State Zip

Routing Number Account Number

Type of Account: Checking Account Savings Account

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until CHAMBER has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and manner as to afford CHAMBER and FINANCIAL INSTITUTION a reasonable opportunity to act on it. Account will be debited on a MONTHLY basis beginning:

(start date) 1st 15th Year for \$ Monthly Amount

PLEASE ATTACH COPY OF VOIDED CHECK TO THIS FORM



Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce Membership Packages

<u>Number of Employees</u>	<u>Financial Investment</u>
1-10 employees	\$375.00
11-25 employees	\$570.00
26-50 employees	\$785.00
51-100 employees	\$1,150.00
101-250 employees	\$1,660.00
251-500 employees	\$2,640.00
Over 500 plus \$2.00 per employee	\$3,500.00
<u>Individuals/Nonprofits</u>	\$250.00

Professional Groups

Base rate of \$375.00 plus \$160.00 for each additional professional listed (doctors, insurance agents, accountants, etc.)

Additional Directory Categories

Your membership includes one directory category listing. Add up to two more for \$160 each in our online and printed directory. To add categories, call us at (256) 353-5312.

Own Multiple Businesses?

Chamber members receive 25% off membership for each additional business. Call (256) 353-5312 to claim your discount.

Our membership application is also available online at
<https://tools.dcc.org/member/newmemberapp>