



PRINCETON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TOURISM

MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

WWW.PRINCETONMNCHAMBER.ORG



PACCT HISTORY

The Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce (PACCT) is a membership association of approximately 150 businesses and growing.

The mission of the PACCT is to lead, promote and advocate for our community partners to make Princeton a great destination city.

Chamber members enjoy a number of opportunities each year for connection, education and community involvement.

The Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC) was founded in 1926 and filed Articles of Incorporation with the state of Minnesota on May 28, 1957. It is an organization comprised of businesses, civic groups and individuals from every segment of the community. The purpose of the Chamber is to unite local commerce, civic organizations and citizens for the benefit of all with the common goal to strengthen and promote the community as a whole.

In 2023, the organization added the tourism arm to the chamber and became the Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism (PACCT).

The Chamber is financed through membership investments and creative fund-raising efforts. The PACC is not a tax-funded government organization, but rather a non-profit organization.



GET INVOLVED

- Receive monthly chamber newsletters to stay up to date on what is happening in the chamber world of Princeton
 - Opportunity to participate in chamber committees and volunteer at chamber events
 - Volunteer opportunities with nonprofit members
 - Expand your network and relationships
 - Support the local business community through various chamber-sponsored campaigns
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- Increase exposure by attending networking events
 - Enjoy offers exclusive to members
 - Receive a business listing on the chamber website, in the Princeton Community Guide and on the tourism website, This Is Princeton
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- PACCT Community Leadership Series to strengthen yourself and your business
 - Opportunity to be a part of Tiger Community Connections to help influence and grow our workforce

COMMUNITY — GROWTH — IMPACT





WHAT'S INCLUDED

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Networking

The chamber offers a variety of networking opportunities including Lunch & Learns, Morning Networking, After Hours and more. We offer a variety of options to fit your busy schedule.

Impact

You'll have a greater sense of community impact through strategic partnerships with schools, businesses, nonprofits and community associations.

Marketing

Being a member of the chamber gets you a listing in the Princeton Community Guide as well as a listing on the chamber website and tourism website.

Ribbon Cuttings

Have a new location, anniversary or reason to celebrate? We offer ribbon cuttings for any of those occasions. We create a Facebook event, invite our board, the city council and local newspaper and stream the ribbon cutting live on Facebook.

Volunteering

We offer a number of ways to get involved in any number of committees or events.





ADD -ONS



TO FURTHER PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS

PACCT Promos

For only \$20/each, you can include your promotion in a bi-weekly email that will be sent to nearly 400 members of the PACCT email blast. It will also be distributed on the chamber Facebook page in an individual post, which currently has over 4,000 followers. You provide the copy, and we'll provide the ad. PACCT Promos will be sent on the second and fourth Friday of each month.

Online Silent Auction Basket

Donate a basket that highlights your business and receive exposure at the annual Online Silent Auction.

Welcome Bags

Donate some of your business swag so we can include it in the Princeton Public Utilities welcome bags, which are given to new residents of Princeton. We also provide an opportunity for you to give something to the new teachers of Princeton!

Sponsorships

We offer a number of sponsorships throughout the year, including the Rum River Festival, Light Up Princeton, the PACCT Community Leadership Series, the VFW/PACCT Cornhole Tournament and More!

This Is Princeton

Sponsorship packages are available, which include video commercials and podcast guests.

CHAMBER COMMITTEES

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WELCOMING COMMITTEE

The Welcoming Committee works on strategies to welcome new members and retain current members. Each month, the committee delivers “Chamber Cheer” to unsuspecting members.

PUZZLES, PIZZA & PUB NIGHT/ONLINE GALA

The Puzzles, Pizza & Pub Night/Online Gala Committee plans the two annual Puzzle, Pizza and Pub Night events, which take place at Sunken Ship Brewing Company. This group also helps plan the online gala, which takes place annually.

RUM RIVER FESTIVAL

The Rum River Festival Committee is made up of a number of sub-committees, which includes the Parade, Lucky Ducks, Medallion Hunt, The Big Duck and the 5K. Planning for the June festival typically begins in January.

PACCT GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Golf Tournament Committee plans the annual golf tournament, which takes place each July.



CHAMBER COMMITTEES, CONT.

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CANDIDATE FORUM COMMITTEE

The chamber hosts a candidate forum typically every four years. This committee helps plan the forum, including posting questions, getting it online and finding a moderator and volunteers.

VFW CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

The VFW Cornhole Tournament committee helps plan the tournament, which is a combined effort with the Princeton VFW. The VFW provides the drinks and food, while the chamber runs the tournament and promotes it.

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY/MINI DAZZLE PARADE

This committee helps brainstorm ideas for Small Business Saturday and helps to arrange the Mini Dazzle Parade, which takes place on Small Business Saturday and helps to kick off Light Up Princeton.

LIGHT UP PRINCETON/LUMINARY WALK

The Light Up Princeton Committee helps to plan the event and arrange volunteers for it. In addition, the committee helps organize the Winter Solstice Luminary Walk for Mental Health Awareness, which happens on December 21st each year.



JOIN US AT A NETWORKING EVENT

LUNCH & LEARN

Lunch & Learns take place each month (except June & July). We cover a specific topic and bring in a speaker to help us learn and bring something new back to our businesses.



MORNING NETWORKING

Each month, a business hosts Morning Networking at their business location. Don't have a brick and mortar? No problem! We can rent the Princeton Civic Center or use the Chamber office. Morning Networking events give our businesses a chance to shine! Sign up early! They fill fast!

AFTER HOURS

After Hours typically take place on a quarterly basis. This is a much more casual networking experience where we go somewhere as a group to have some fun. Sometimes it's a sporting event, and sometimes it's Bingo or Trivia!

MANUFACTURING MONTH

Manufacturing Month takes place during the month of October. Our manufacturers offer tours all month long as well as other fun activities to celebrate the industry.

ANNUAL MEETING/END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

Our Annual Meeting takes place during our December Lunch & Learn. We recap the year and name our Nonprofit, Business and Volunteer of the Year and also have a lot of fun!

CHAMBER

COMMUNITY EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Puzzles, Pizza and Pub Night
Teams of four compete to see who can be the first to complete a 300 piece puzzle, eat a large pizza and drink eight beers.

JULY

PACCT Golf Tournament
Teams of four compete in the chamber's annual golf scramble to take home the coveted travelling trophy. Hole Sponsorships are also available.

SEPTEMBER

VFW Day Cornhole Tournament
In this combined effort with the Princeton VFW, the chamber hosts a Cornhole Tournament in honor of VFW Day.

NOVEMBER

Small Business Saturday
The Chamber promotes small businesses by encouraging people to Shop Local.

Mini Dazzle Parade
The opening of Light Up Princeton kicks off with the Mini Dazzle Parade.

JUNE

The Rum River Festival is the City's annual celebration. It kicks off with the Rum River Festival Parade and includes a medallion hunt, Lucky Duck Race, a 5K and much more!

AUGUST

Puzzles, Pizza & Pub Night - Summer Edition
Teams of four compete to see who can be the first to complete a 300 piece puzzle, eat a large pizza and drink eight beers.

OCTOBER

Daytime Trick or Treating
Businesses open their doors to little ghosts and goblins to stop by to go trick or treating.

DECEMBER

Light Up Princeton
The light display runs through Christmas Eve with chances to volunteer and promote your business or other nonprofits.

Winter Solstice Luminary Walk for Mental Health Awareness
The 1- mile walk takes place at Riebe Park.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Businesses Supporting Schools - Schools Supporting Businesses

Tiger Community Connections is a business-education partnership in Princeton dedicated to building strong bonds between our local schools and business communities.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Habits of a Tiger: Hang the 5 Habits of a Tiger poster up at your business to show you support these skills (Critical Thinkers, Positive Leaders, Effective Communicators, Self-Aware, Empathetic Citizens)

Job Postings: Advertise your open jobs for students ages 14-18 on the PHS Job Opportunities board.

Workforce Panel: Take part in a workforce panel for Princeton High School and/or Middle School students and talk about your industry and business as students explore career opportunities.

Mock Interviews: Interview high school juniors during PHS Mock Interview Week to provide students with interview practice. You can choose the number of hours you participate.

Just Desserts: Take part in this Chamber event where you'll meet high school students to give them practice talking with a business professional.

Industry Specialists: Spend time with students and/or teachers either on site at your business or at the school teaching about your industry and providing tours.

Career Shadow Week: Sign up to host students at your business during Career Shadow Week.

Informational Video: Submit a video of your businesses career opportunities and industry information to be shared with students through existing PHS programming and curriculum.

Become a Business Mentor: The school will connect you with a student who you will mentor and make connections with as the student explores different career options.

Tiger Community Connections: Join the Tiger Community Connections Advisory Group to provide input and help plan these activities in collaboration with the school district.

Become a Internship Host: Provide a paid, on-the-job work experience for students who have completed career academy courses for your industry.

CTE Advisory Committee: Meet with local CTE educators to ensure classes are aligned to local industry needs to better equip students with the skills needed to succeed.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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WHAT IS A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE?

A voluntary business membership organization that unites businesses, professional leaders and individuals, thus creating a central agency which lends itself to improving business and building a better community.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN YOUR CHAMBER?

The Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism provides countless opportunities for connection, education, leadership and volunteerism. Grow your business, build community and have an impact, all while making Princeton a great place to live, work and play.

MY BUSINESS IS NOT LOCATED IN PRINCETON. CAN I STILL JOIN?

Yes! While our primary service area is Princeton, we have members from several different zip codes.

ARE PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS ALLOWED TO ATTEND CHAMBER FUNCTIONS?

Absolutely! Chamber Lunch & Learns and Morning Networking meetings are a great place to start. We allow prospective members to attend up to two events before joining the chamber.

ONCE I AM A MEMBER, AM I REQUIRED TO ATTEND ALL THE EVENTS?

We understand that sometimes you are the only person working in your business or have family obligations that could keep you from attending. There are alternative ways you can get involved, including volunteering or joining a committee.

CAN I HAVE AN EMAIL LIST OF MEMBERS?

In compliance with the CAN-SPAM Act, we do not share member emails.

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CONTACT US



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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