

Board Recruitment Process

1. Develop criteria for Board Profile Grid.

Use the profile grid to identify the skills, background, and demographics to be represented on the board. Establish the priorities and the initial profiles to be recruited.

2. Identify recruiting prospects.

Identify the people and organizations to contact as part of the recruiting process. Get the names and numbers of people to be contacted as prospects for the board. As part of this process, try to understand what each person could bring to the board.

3. Narrow the list of potential board members to top prospects.

Go through the list of possible board members and narrow the list to the strongest core group (six to nine individuals). Prioritize the list of remaining applicants based on the diversity needs of the board. Make plans for immediate follow-up with the core group prospects.

4. Assign contact person to each prospect.

Assign an individual to contact each of the board prospects. Give each contact person the appropriate recruiting materials, including orientation packet, application, and job description. If the prospect is interested, give her or him the materials and discuss the next steps.

5. Contact top prospects.

Set up interviews with top prospects. Interview should include a board member and the Executive Director. Focus discussion on expectations of board members and the identification of other possible prospects. Try to get final commitment from prospect at this meeting. Ask the person to complete the application, either in the meeting itself or by sending it into the office. Discuss opportunities for involvement on committees in lieu of board membership.

6. Conduct orientation.

Conduct a board member orientation for all new board members. Assign mentors to assist new members, and make committee assignments to all board members. Ask each board member to complete the board member agreement and send to office.