

CONSIDERATIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

In considering members for nonprofit boards, the following issues serve as key considerations in selecting best candidates. Once selected for invitation by the organization, candidates must be informed of the participation expectation in order for them to determine their willingness to commit their time, talent and resources as required to fully participate as a board member.

1. Demonstrated interest in and commitment to organization's mission?
2. Potential for leadership - what kind of respect does their reputation reflect?
What is their track record with other organizations?
3. Indication of their ability to focus on values, vision and long-term issues?
4. Sphere of influence - who is within their sphere?
Can they and will they open doors of opportunity for the organization?
5. Reputation for participation in other organizations?
Are they oriented toward the organization's needs or their own needs?
6. Are they effective problem solvers?
7. Control of or have influence with significant financial resources?
8. Special expertise or perspective?
Is it appropriate to use a board position to obtain expertise available otherwise?
9. Comfort with Board and Committee group process?
Team oriented?
10. How important are considerations of -
 - a) Geography?
 - b) Gender/Age/Ethnicity?
 - c) Institutional representation?