

Sample Board Member Commitment Form

A commitment form provides a way to communicate clearly the expectations of board members.

Organization Name

Board Member Commitment Form

I will:

- Attend at least ___% of all Board meetings by phone or in person
- Review the agenda and supporting materials prior to Board and committee meetings.
- Serve on committees and take on special assignments as needed.
- Personally contribute to ORGANIZATION
- Assist in raising funds, as agreed upon annually by the Board.
- Remain informed about ORGANIZATION mission, services, and policies and promote ORGANIZATION, as agreed annually by the Board.
- Provide support and advice to the staff but avoid interfering in management activities.
- Suggest nominees and participate in board recruitment.

I will act in concert with the following principles:

As a board member I understand that I have duties of care, loyalty, and obedience to the organization.

- The duty of care is the duty to pay attention to the organization—to monitor its activities, see that its mission is being accomplished, and guard its financial resources.
- The duty of loyalty is the duty to avoid conflicts of interest, and
- The duty of obedience is to carry out the purposes of the organization and to comply with the law.

I commit that I will uphold these duties and that I shall do my utmost to ensure that the _____ performs its mission and achieves its goals. As a board member I agree to:

- Act with honesty and integrity
- Support in a positive manner all actions taken by the board of directors even when I am in a minority position on such actions. I recognize that decisions of the board can be made only by a majority vote at a board meeting and respect the majority decisions of the board, while retaining the right to seek changes through ethical and constructive channels;
- Participate in (1) the annual strategic planning retreat, (2) board self-evaluation programs, and (3) board development workshops, seminars, and other educational events that enhance my skills as a board member.
- Keep confidential information confidential.
- Exercise my authority as a board member only when acting in a meeting with the full board or as I am delegated by the board.
- Work with and respect the opinions of my peers who serve this board, and leave my personal prejudices out of all board discussions.
- Always act for the good of the organization and represent the interests of all people served by the organization.
- Represent this organization in a positive and supportive manner at all times.

- Observe the parliamentary procedures and display courteous conduct in all board and committee meetings.
- Refrain from intruding on administrative issues that are the responsibility of management, except to monitor the results of the organization.
- Accept my responsibility for providing oversight of the financial condition of the organization.
- Avoid acting in a way that represents a conflict of interest between my position as a board member and my personal or professional life, even if those actions appear to provide a benefit for the organization. This includes using my position for the advantage of my friends and business associates. If such a conflict does arise, I will declare that conflict before the board and refrain from voting on matters in which I have conflict.
- Abide by these board operating procedures.

Signature

Date