Serve on the NAPFA Board of Directors

Want to make a difference? Apply to become a member of NAPFA’s Board of Directors.

NAPFA, like many other non-profit associations, is only as strong as its volunteer leaders. The Board of Directors governs the association and sets its strategic direction. The Board monitors the organization’s finances and formulates the vision for its future.

Bringing your skills, expertise, and vision to NAPFA can have far-reaching benefits for you, the organization and the profession. The experience of collaborating with others who share your passion is invaluable.

NAPFA benefits greatly from the spirit of volunteerism displayed by Board members. Past Board members say there are many benefits to serving on a Board, including the opportunity to:

- Enhance your career and NAPFA membership;
- Expand your leadership skills;
- Exchange ideas and perspectives with other planners;
- Expand your network of personal and professional contacts

NAPFA’s Leadership Development Committee (LDC) is in search of high energy, passionate professionals to serve on the NAPFA Board of Directors.

The LDC seeks qualified candidates with leadership experience and a commitment to comprehensive, Fee-Only financial planning. If you are interested in serving on NAPFA’s Board of Directors, please read through this packet carefully and complete the online application by January 20, 2024.

If you know of a NAPFA member who would make an excellent candidate, please email ldc@napfa.org. Within this email, please provide the name and contact information of the nominee with a short explanation of why you think the individual would be a valuable addition to NAPFA’s volunteer leadership.
Benefits of Serving on the NAPFA Board of Directors

In appreciation for their service, Board members receive:

- Complimentary registration to NAPFA national conferences during their term
- Exclusive Board development and volunteer training sessions
- Exclusive networking opportunities with key leaders in the association and profession

Requirements to Serve on the NAPFA Board of Directors

To serve on the Board, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Must be a NAPFA-Registered Financial Advisor in good standing;
- Must have previous experience on a NAPFA task force, committee, Region Board, or comparable nonprofit entity (e.g. FPA, AICPA, etc.);
- Must be willing to relinquish any currently-held position on a NAPFA Region Board should the candidate be selected to serve on the Board.

NAPFA Board Directors are required to:

- Serve a three-year term;
- Attend the Spring and Fall National Conferences each term year; and
- Attend all Board meetings and conference calls

NAPFA Board of Directors Roles and Responsibilities

- Understand the organization’s mission, purposes, goals, policies, programs, services, strengths, and needs.
- Serve in leadership positions or undertake special assignments.
- Represent the interests of members and take ultimate responsibility for the success and long-term direction of the organization.
- Participate in and approve the strategic plan.
- Empower, support, review, and hold the CEO accountable to his/her duties.
- Approve the annual budget.
- Serve and represent the Organization’s point of view.
- Focus on policy and strategic level issues.
- Speak freely and openly internally – but with a goal of reaching consensus. Once an issue has been decided, represent the organization as a whole by speaking with a unified voice.
- Maintain confidentiality of Board executive sessions and speak for the Board or organization only when authorized to do so.
- Use staff for special projects only with prior consultation and approval by the CEO.
- Read and understand the organization’s financial statements.
- Avoid conflicts of interest and maintain a sense of fairness.
- Be prepared for and attend three face-to-face Board meetings and monthly video conferences.
Frequently Asked Questions

How many Board positions are available?
NAPFA’s Board of Directors will communicate with the NAPFA Leadership Development Committee as to the number of expected Board vacancies each year. The Board includes a Chair, a Consumer Representative, a Secretary-Treasurer, and other “at-large” directors.

What are the candidate requirements?
Candidates must be a NAPFA-Registered Financial Advisor in good standing. Experience on a NAPFA task force, committee, Region Board, or combination thereof is preferred. Comparable experience with another non-profit organization is also acceptable.

What is the time commitment?
All Board Members serve a three-year term that begins on September 1 and ends on August 31 three years later. The time commitment can vary based on tasks you agree to or other committee assignments you accept.

Each year, Board members attend the summer volunteer leaders meetings at NAPFA headquarters and the Fall and Spring Conferences. The Board meets in-person three times during the year in conjunction with the above events and holds monthly hour-long video conferences.

What are the application requirements?
All candidates must complete the application and participate in a formal interview with NAPFA’s Leadership Development Committee. The application will include questions that require simple answers, such as your ability to meet the commitments of being a Board member, as well as open-ended questions, such as “what is your vision for the organization?”

How are members of the Board selected?
NAPFA’s Board of Directors communicates the particular sets of skills that the Board is seeking in candidates to NAPFA’s Leadership Development Committee each year. The LDC then conducts an exhaustive search and recommends a slate of candidates for Board service.

What is the application and selection timeline?

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<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Process</th>
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<tr>
<td>December to January</td>
<td>Applications and nominations accepted</td>
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<tr>
<td>January to February</td>
<td>Applications reviewed, reference and background checks performed</td>
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<tr>
<td>February to March</td>
<td>Video interviews with selected nominees conducted by the Leadership Development Committee</td>
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<td>March</td>
<td>Slate of candidates recommended by the Leadership Development Committee and presented to the Board for their approval</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>The Board approves the slate of candidates</td>
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