

PURPOSE

This Leadership Profile outlines the expectations, competencies, responsibilities, and service commitment for Directors-at-Large on the Academy Board of Directors. It reflects current governance practices used by professional membership associations while preserving Academy-specific leadership responsibilities.

ROLE OF A DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE IN A PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATION

A Director-at-Large is an elected fiduciary leader who advances the organization's mission, strategic priorities, and long-term sustainability. Directors apply independent judgment, strategic insight, and governance leadership while acting in the best interests of the Academy.

ACADEMY-SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Board of Directors service
- Strategic planning participation
- Public policy participation
- Organizational representation assignments as requested by the President
- Engagement with Academy organizational units

POSITION OVERVIEW

Directors-at-Large serve as voting members of the Academy Board of Directors. They provide governance leadership, fiduciary oversight, and strategic stewardship, bringing an enterprise-wide perspective to decisions that advance the Academy's mission, vision, strategic priorities, and long-term success.

TERM

- Three Director-at-Large positions serve staggered terms.
- Three-year term of office.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Academy member in the credentialed Active or Retired classification.
- Demonstrated leadership experience within the Academy and/or other professional, community, nonprofit, healthcare, academic, or business organizations.
- Preferred experience participating in national, affiliate, and/or district dietetic association activities within the previous five years.
- Demonstrated leadership qualities.
- Registration with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) preferred.

PATHWAY LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES**Leadership & Governance**

- Lead collaboratively and keeps the Academy's mission at the center of Board work.
- Understand the role of a board of directors and the fiduciary duties of nonprofit governance.
- Distinguish governance from management and respects the roles of volunteer leaders and staff.

Strategic Vision

- Think strategically, globally, and futuristically.
- Evaluate issues from an enterprise-wide perspective.
- Prioritize the Academy's long-term interests.
- Monitor trends and issues affecting the profession, membership, and organization.

Board Leadership

- Exercise sound judgment and effective decision-making.
- Apply conflict-resolution skills when needed.
- Strengthen Board deliberation and governance practices.
- Contribute constructively to Board discussions and decisions.

Professional Knowledge & Stewardship

- Understand the Academy's mission, governance structure, strategic priorities, and issues affecting the profession and membership.
- Maintain knowledge of the evolving nutrition and dietetics profession.
- Steward Academy resources and strategic priorities responsibly.

EMPLOYER SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT

Successful service requires meaningful time commitment and active participation throughout the term. Candidates should confirm that they have the personal, professional, and employer support needed to meet attendance, travel, preparation, and leadership responsibilities associated with Academy governance.

EXPECTATIONS OF SERVICE

- Act in the best interests of the Academy and its members.
- Maintain confidentiality as required by Academy policies and procedures and fiduciary obligations.
- Prepare for and actively participate in Board meetings and discussions.
- Fulfill responsibilities in accordance with Academy governing documents and policies.
- Model effective governance and ethical leadership.
- Commit the time, energy, and expertise needed to advance the Academy's strategic priorities.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE PROFILE

Governance Leadership

- Serves as voting members of the Board of Directors.
- Participates in governance, fiduciary oversight, and strategic decision-making.
- Exercises fiduciary responsibility and sound judgment in support of the Academy's mission and long-term sustainability.
- Exercises the duties of care, loyalty, and obedience, placing the Academy's interests above personal, professional, geographic, or constituent interests.
- Supports effective governance and advances responsible stewardship of Academy resources.
- Carries out committee or other leadership assignments established by Board-approved policy, committee charters, or current organizational practice.

Strategic Oversight

- Reviews the Academy's strategic direction and environmental trends.
- Oversee strategic, financial, operational, reputational, and compliance risks, including Academy compliance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.
- Evaluates issues from an enterprise-wide perspective and supports decisions that advance the Academy's long-term interests.

Accepted:

Revised:

Stakeholder Insight

- Engages with members and stakeholders to understand emerging issues, opportunities, and perspectives that may inform Board deliberations and strategic decision-making.
- Considers stakeholder perspectives while acting in the best interests of the Academy as a whole, rather than representing a specific constituency.
- Monitors issues, opportunities, and perspectives emerging across Academy organizational units.

Organizational Representation

- Represents the Academy and/or Board of Directors at organizational unit meetings and external meetings as requested by the President in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer.
- Shares observations and perspectives that may inform Board deliberations and governance discussions.

Advocacy & Public Policy

- Participates in public policy efforts and Action Alerts.