

PURPOSE

This Leadership Profile defines the expectations, competencies, responsibilities, and service commitment for House of Delegates Directors. It reflects contemporary governance practices used by leading professional membership associations and incorporates Academy-specific responsibilities established through the House of Delegates, House Leadership Team, and Board of Directors structure.

ROLE OF A HOUSE OF DELEGATES DIRECTOR IN A PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATION

The House of Delegates Director holds a dual governance role within the Academy, serving as both a voting member of the Board of Directors and a member of the House Leadership Team. In this role, the Director contributes to fiduciary oversight, strategic governance, member dialogue, leadership development, and communication between the House of Delegates and Board of Directors.

ACADEMY-SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Board of Directors service
- House Leadership Team service
- House of Delegates leadership
- House dialogue and facilitation
- Liaison responsibilities
- Public policy participation

POSITION OVERVIEW

The House of Delegates Director serves as a voting member of the Academy Board of Directors and a member of the House Leadership Team. The Director supports governance leadership, fiduciary oversight, strategic decision-making, member engagement, and communication between the House of Delegates and Board of Directors.

TERM

- Three positions serve staggered terms.
- Each Director serves a three-year term.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Academy member in the credentialed Active or Retired classification.
- Served at least two years in the House of Delegates as an elected or appointed delegate within the previous ten years.
- Registration with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) preferred.
- Demonstrated leadership qualities.
- Demonstrated involvement in Academy governance, leadership, and organizational activities.
- Preferred experience in national, affiliate, and/or district dietetic association activities within the previous five years.

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.
- Identify leaders within the constituency.

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.

Facilitation & Consensus Building

- Lead effective meetings and dialogue.
- Apply conflict-resolution principles.
- Facilitate productive discussion among diverse stakeholders.
- Build consensus and support informed decision-making.

Communication & Influence

- Communicate clearly with diverse audiences.
- Engage members and stakeholders in meaningful dialogue.
- Present information effectively and build productive relationships.

EMPLOYER SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT

Successful service requires a 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, House, and House Leadership Team meetings and discussions.
- Fulfill responsibilities in accordance with Academy governing documents and policies.
- Support effective governance and ethical leadership practices.
- Commit the time, energy, and expertise needed to advance the Academy's strategic priorities.

DIRECTOR PROFILE

Governance Leadership

Accepted: 07/17/26

Revised:

- Serves as a voting member of the Board of Directors.
- Participates in governance, fiduciary oversight, and strategic decision-making.
- Exercises fiduciary responsibility and sound judgment to support the Academy's mission and long-term sustainability.
- Facilitates communication between the House of Delegates and Board of Directors.
- Exercises the duties of care, loyalty, and obedience and places the interests of the Academy above personal, professional, geographic, or constituent interests. While the HOD Director brings HOD experience and input to the Academy Board, the HOD Director acts in the best interests of the Academy when participating as a Director.
- Serves on committees as may be appointed by the President.

House Leadership

- Serves as a member of the House of Delegates and House Leadership Team.
- Supports effective House leadership and governance processes.
- Contributes to House planning, leadership development, and governance dialogue.

Member Dialogue & Engagement

- Collaborates with House Leadership Team members to facilitate House dialogue and engagement.
- Works with content experts and task forces to support informed House discussion.
- Maintains awareness of issues, opportunities, and perspectives across the profession and membership.

Liaison Responsibilities

- Serves as a liaison to groups as requested by the Academy President and House Speaker.
- Supports communication and understanding between the House of Delegates and Board of Directors.
- 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.

Advocacy & Public Policy

- Participates in public policy efforts and Action Alerts.

TIME COMMITMENT

The HOD Director Leadership Pathway commitment includes Board and Executive Committee responsibilities, leadership development, succession planning activities, and additional meetings, events, and assignments established by Board-approved policy, committee charters, or current organizational practice, including FNCE® as applicable. The role also includes House Leadership Team meetings, House meetings, Connection Group meetings, correspondence, reports, planning activities, task forces, and Academy initiatives, which may require additional time.