

PURPOSE

This Speaker Leadership Pathway Profile defines the leadership expectations, competencies, responsibilities, and succession pathway for service as Speaker-elect, Speaker, and Immediate Past Speaker of the House of Delegates. It organizes current Academy responsibilities within a contemporary leadership framework that supports leadership development, succession planning, and effective House operations.

ROLE OF THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE AS A DIRECTOR IN A PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATION

The House of Delegates Speaker serves a dual governance role within the Academy as both a voting member of the Board of Directors and a member of the House Leadership Team. The Speaker leads the House of Delegates, facilitates member engagement and productive deliberation, strengthens communication between the House and Board of Directors, and brings House perspectives to Academy leadership. When participating as a Director, the Speaker exercises fiduciary responsibility and acts in the best interests of the Academy.

LEADERSHIP PATHWAY PHILOSOPHY

The Speaker Leadership Pathway is designed to provide continuity of leadership, governance experience, facilitation expertise, and institutional knowledge across a three-year leadership commitment.

ACADEMY-SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- House Leadership Team responsibilities
- Board of Directors service
- Executive Committee service
- Committee assignments
- Public policy responsibilities
- House facilitation responsibilities
- Delegate engagement responsibilities
- Leadership succession requirements

POSITION OVERVIEW

The Speaker Leadership Pathway includes three consecutive roles—Speaker-elect, Speaker, and Immediate Past Speaker—that provide continuity in House leadership, governance effectiveness, member engagement, and leadership succession. Through this pathway, leaders build governance experience, support effective House operations, and advance Academy strategic priorities.

TERM

- Speaker-elect – 1 year
- Speaker – 1 year
- Immediate Past Speaker – 1 year

Total leadership commitment: 3 years.

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 past ten years.
- 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.
- Registration with the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) preferred.
- Demonstrated leadership qualities.
- Experience in Academy activities and operations, including participation in national, DPG, MIG, affiliate, and/or district dietetic association activities.

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.
- Identifies 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.

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.

Accepted:

Revised:

- 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.

PATHWAY LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

EMPLOYER SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT

Successful service requires a meaningful time commitment and active participation throughout the term of office. Candidates should confirm they have the personal, professional, and employer support needed to meet Academy governance responsibilities, including meeting attendance, travel, preparation, and leadership activities.

TIME COMMITMENT

The Speaker 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.

EXPECTATIONS OF SERVICE

- Act in the best interests of the Academy and its members.
- Maintain confidentiality as required by Academy policies and procedure and fiduciary obligations..
- Prepare for and actively participate in 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 necessary to support House effectiveness and Academy strategic priorities.

SPEAKER-ELECT PROFILE

- Serves as a member of the House of Delegates and House Leadership Team.
- Serves as a voting member of the Board of Directors.
- Serves on additional appointed committees.
- Serves as a member of the Finance and Audit Committee.
- Performs Speaker responsibilities when delegated or in the Speaker's absence.
- Collaborates with House leaders, content experts, and task forces.
- Facilitates communication between the House and Board.
- Works with the President-elect on future committee and task force appointments.
- Participates in public policy efforts and Action Alerts.
- Prepares to assume the office of Speaker through governance experience, House leadership development, facilitation practice, and succession planning.

SPEAKER PROFILE

Governance Leadership

- Serves as a voting member of the Board of Directors.
- Serves as a member of the Executive Committee.
- Serves on additional appointed committees

- Serves as an ex officio member of the Legislative and Public Policy Committee.
- 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.

House Leadership

- Serves as Speaker of the House of Delegates.
- Leads the House of Delegates and House Leadership Team.
- Directs activities that support effective House operations.

Member Engagement & Dialogue

- Leads House dialogue and engagement processes.
- Collaborates with House leaders, content experts, and task forces.
- Encourages inclusion, diversity, equity, and access.
- Supports member engagement on issues affecting the profession.

Professional Representation

- Serves as liaison to groups as requested by the President.
- Participates in public policy efforts and Action Alerts.

IMMEDIATE PAST SPEAKER PROFILE

- Serves as a member of the House of Delegates and House Leadership Team.
- Serves as a voting member of the Board of Directors.
- Serves as chair of the Honors Committee.
- Provides continuity, historical perspective, mentorship, and leadership counsel to support House effectiveness, organizational stability, and leadership succession.
- Collaborates with House leaders, content experts, and task forces.
- Participates in public policy efforts and Action Alerts.