



American Association of Colleges of Nursing

Call for Nominations - Frequently Asked Questions

Am I eligible to serve on the Board of Directors?

Academic candidates must be the Chief Academic Nurse Administrator (Dean) of an AACN member institution. Practice representatives must be a CNO or hold a similar executive level nursing practice position. Practice representatives cannot be directly affiliated with the academic institution of currently serving AACN Board members.

Do I need to have previous service on an AACN committee or task force to serve on the Board of Directors?

The Nominating Committee looks for previous volunteer experience and considers both service through AACN and with other organizations. For the Chair-Elect position, recent service on the AACN Board of Directors is strongly preferred.

What is the time commitment for Board of Directors and Nominating Committee?

The Board of Directors meets 4 times annually with interim conference calls as needed. Board members spend an average of two hours per week on Board service; the Board Chair and Board Chair-Elect spend considerably more time (up to 6-8 hours weekly). The Nominating Committee meets twice annually in person and has 4-5 conference calls, which take place primarily in late summer/early fall when preparing the slate of candidates.

How long are the terms and what are the term limits?

Board member terms are 2 years, and candidates may serve two terms. Term limits across all positions on the Board of Directors is 8 years. The Nominating Committee term is 2 years.

How does the Nominating Committee select the slate of candidates?

The Nominating Committee spends considerable time reviewing the submitted materials from each candidate. Criteria such as membership diversity, the need for representation of institutional types/sizes and geographic regions as well as conflict of interest are considered. In addition, the Committee considers previous experience on national Boards and Committees, distinguished awards/special recognitions, research/scholarship, and thought leadership. Information based on the Board Competency Matrix will complement these criteria.

How will the Board Competency Matrix inform the work of the Nominating Committee?

The Board Competency Matrix will inform the work of the Nominating Committee based on current and future needs for expertise needed to advance strategic priorities of the association.

How is Conflict of Interest (COI) considered?

In looking at potential conflicts of interest, AACN considers service on other national nursing Boards and Board governance committees, such as Finance, Audit, Nominating, and Fundraising. Members in AACN-elected leadership positions abide by the duties of care, loyalty, and obedience. The duty of loyalty means that Board and committee members hold AACN as their primary loyalty. Specific questions about COI may be further addressed by contacting the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

How can I learn more about AACN's opportunities for volunteer service?

AACN conducts a session called Be a Leader Among Leaders each year during the Deans Annual Meeting. In addition, information about AACN's volunteer opportunities is available on the website. A call for volunteers is issued several times each year, and members seeking volunteer opportunities should complete the member interest survey on the MyAACN dashboard.