

**AMERICAN RED CROSS  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES**

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**OVERVIEW**

Board members are selected based on their commitment to the mission as well as their individual expertise in relation to the needs of the organization and the composition of the Board as a whole. It is essential to identify and nominate board members with the leadership and experiential abilities to perform their duties as board members. Additionally, to be effective, board members must have a clear understanding of the expectations and level of commitment required of membership on the Board of Governors of the American Red Cross, and be capable of meeting those requirements.

Each year, board members will be required to complete the Individual Board Member Annual Self-Assessment and to sign the Board Member Annual Affirmation of Service. Board members will also complete a Peer Evaluation annually for use by the Governance Committee when considering Governors for re-election.

**BOARD MEMBER EXPECTATIONS**

1. Commitment of time to:
  - a. Attend and participate in board meetings,
  - b. Participate on at least one committee,
  - c. Accept special assignments or leadership positions, and
  - d. Stay informed on issues and read materials.
2. Acknowledge that missing three consecutive board meetings without reasonable cause and approval by the Chairman of the Board can be grounds for removal from the Board of Governors.
3. Understand the authority, duties, and responsibilities of the Board of Governors as outlined in the Congressional Charter and the Bylaws.
4. Hold others and yourself accountable for the American Red Cross mission, financial viability and effectiveness of the organization.
5. Avoid conflicts of interest and other unethical behavior.
6. Focus on governance and oversight issues.
7. Support board decisions.
8. Treat board matters confidentially.

9. Make a personal financial contribution and engage in fundraising.
10. Demonstrate a commitment to diversity.