



The Leader Selection Process for NAPFA Governance

The National Board and the Leadership Development Committee

“The National Board’s guidance has helped to make the fee-only, RIA business model the choice among consumers and press. Now it must guide NAPFA through a period of great regulatory change and we need the next generation of NAPFA members to lead the organization through that process.”

Tom Orecchio, CFP®
Past National Chair

Leading NAPFA Into the Future.

Are you interested in serving on NAPFA’s National Board? NAPFA, like many non-profit organizations, is only as strong as its ability to encourage members to volunteer and assist with the management of the organization.

Serving on the National Board is professionally rewarding. Bringing your talents and vision to bear on the issues relevant to a national organization like NAPFA can have far-reaching benefits for you, the organization and the profession. The opportunity to work closely with other leading members of the profession to achieve common goals and to make friends with other members from around the country is invaluable.

Here are some of the important things you should know if you are considering becoming one of the leaders of the organization.

The National Board manages, supervises, controls, and directs NAPFA affairs.

What are the responsibilities of the National Board?

The National Board of Directors manages, supervises, controls, and directs the affairs of NAPFA. They monitor the organization's finances and formulate its strategic goals and objectives. The Board will consist of a specified number of members, each of whom serves a three-year term.



What positions exist on the National Board?

There is a Chair, a Consumer Representative, a Treasurer, and a Secretary. The remaining representatives are “at-large” members. Members of the National Board may also lead or be part of other standing committees that exist; for example the Presidents Council or the Ethics Committee.

What time commitment must someone make to serve on the Board?

The time commitment can vary based on tasks you may agree to as a National Board member or other committee assignments you accept. Generally, though, you must be available to attend a summer strategic planning meeting at NAPFA's National headquarters in Arlington Heights, IL, the National Conference in May, and in-person Board meetings in IL in September/October, January/February, and prior to the National Conference (wherever it may be held). Each month the full board has a conference call that typically last for one hour. National Board Member terms coincide with NAPFA's fiscal year which runs from September 1 to August 31. Thus Board terms begin on September 1 and expire on August 31 three years later. Incoming board members must also attend Board orientation and Board meetings in the summer prior to taking office.

What other commitments must be made?

You must agree to serve for the full three-year term. You may also have other commitments if you agree to serve in a named role such as Treasurer or Secretary or if you agree to head up or be part of other standing or ad-hoc committees that may be created from time to time.

"Being National Chair allowed me to work with a diverse group of talented people who gave me invaluable ideas for my practice while working for the common good of the organization. My practice, and my life, would be poorer without the experience."

Dick Bellmer, CFP®
Past National Chair

Help make NAPFA the **best!**

If you would like to be considered for a leadership position, or would like to nominate a deserving member, please send an email to LDC@napfa.org. Please provide the name and contact information of the nominee. Please be sure to explain why you believe the nominee would make a valuable addition to the NAPFA leadership team.

How are members of the National Board of Directors chosen?

The NAPFA Leadership Development Committee (LDC) recommends candidates for National Board service. You may submit your name for consideration by the LDC or be nominated by someone else. The members of the NAPFA LDC are:

- Ken Diehl – Chair (MD)
- Cheryl Sherrard – National Representative (NC)
- Lesley Brey – National Representative (HI)
- John Ritter – National Representative (OH)
- Lauren Locker – National Representative (NJ)
- Cindi Hill – West Region Representative
- Steve Craffen – Northeast Region Representative
- Velda Eugenias – South Region Representative
- Chris Long – Midwest Region Representative
- Ellen Turf – NAPFA CEO

How does the Board Selection Process work?

NAPFA's National Board of Directors will communicate with the NAPFA LDC as to the number of Board seats that will be available for election each year. NAPFA's National Board of Directors will also communicate the particular sets of skills that the Board is seeking in the slate of candidates that the NAPFA LDC recommends to the Board for that year.

How are candidates chosen and vetted?

All candidates will be required to complete a written application and participate in a formal interview with the LDC. The application will include questions that require simple answers, such as your ability to meet the commitments of being a Board member and if you have experienced any legal or other potential disqualifying issues. There are also questions that are more open-ended in nature, such as what is your vision for the organization and what talents can you bring to bear. Candidates must also meet certain minimum requirements; you must be a

NAPFA-Registered Financial Advisor in “good standing.” Please note that NAPFA periodically checks with the SEC to see if members have any disciplinary issues. You must also have two years’ experience on a task force, committee, or Region Board (or combination thereof). Please note that you cannot serve on a Regional Board and the National Board simultaneously.

What is the timeline for the process of qualifying for the National Board?

While this is still being finalized for now the timeline is anticipated as follows:

- September to February – Applications and Nominations accepted
- March to April – Applications reviewed
- April – Interviews with nominees conducted by LDC
- April – Slate of candidates recommended by the LDC and presented to National Board for their approval
- May – The National Board approves the slate of candidates.

Are there special abilities or strengths that might be important?

The National Board may from time to time request that the LDC pay particular attention to candidates that have specific skills or talents that may be desired for a particular year.

I am interested in nominating someone (or self-nominating) to the NAPFA LDC for consideration. What do I do?

Please simply submit the name of the person and their contact information to LDC@napfa.org.

If I am not selected to serve on the National Board can I help in other ways?

There are many ways you can assist NAPFA even if you are not selected to serve on the National Board. NAPFA has many standing and working committees that are always looking for help from members willing to volunteer their time and expertise.