

Membership Selection Procedures

- The Board of Trustees elects all board members.
- Individuals elected to board membership should possess characteristics described in “Trustee Qualifications and Values,” which has been endorsed by the board.
- There are ____ seats on the board. There is/is no requirement that all of the seats on the board be filled.
- To promote stability and continuity on the board, no more than three board members should be elected in any given year. No more than two new board members should be elected in any given year.
- The intent of the board is to have a minimum of one and a maximum of two lineal descendants from the family of each of [the donor’s] three children on the board each year. If lineal descendants are not available and qualified, then a maximum of two family members may be considered to serve on the board. The majority of the trustees should be members of [the donor’s] family.
- It is helpful for the board to have at least one member from outside [the donor’s] family.
- The term of office is three years. However, a trustee may be elected for a term of less than three years if the board determines a shorter term is appropriate in order to reduce the number of trustees elected in subsequent years or for any other appropriate reason.
- Trustees may be elected for more than one term.
- Board membership is a serious obligation. If a trustee misses two regularly scheduled meetings in any year, his or her term as a trustee may be terminated upon board review.
- If at all possible, board members should give the board formal notice at least two meetings before they plan to retire from the board.
- The board will select a nominating committee to nominate new board members for consideration by the full board. The nominating committee should consist preferably of one person each from each of the family’s branches.

EXCERPTED FROM *The Trustee Notebook: An Orientation for Family Foundation Board Members*, by Robert Hull, National Center for Family Philanthropy: 1999.