

Women's Leadership Alliance Board Member Commitment Form

The Board of Directors exists to secure and promote the financial, legal, and ethical well being of the Women's Leadership Alliance and to ensure that it fulfills its mission.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Women's Leadership Alliance, I understand that I have a *duty of care* to always work in the best interests of the organization, a *duty of loyalty* to put the good of the organization first and avoid any conflicts of interest and a *duty of obedience* to be faithful to the central goals of the organization and follow its governing documents.

In furtherance of these commitments and responsibilities I will put forth my best individual effort to:

- Attend, fully prepare for, and diligently participate in board meetings, committee meetings and special events.
- Make an annual personal financial contribution to the WLA at a minimum level of \$1000.
- Actively participate in helping to develop resources for the organization, including the recruitment of WLA mentors and program partners.
- Actively participate on at least one board committee.
- Act in the best interests of the WLA, and excuse myself from discussions and votes where I have a conflict of interest. I will sign and comply with the annual conflict of interest policy.
- Familiarize myself with the WLA's bylaws and comply with and support board adherence to them.
- Strive to keep abreast of trends, issues, and current developments that may affect the organization.
- Stay informed about what is going on in the WLA, asking questions and requesting information as needed. I will participate in and take responsibility for making decisions on issues, policies, and other board matters.
- Actively voice my opinions and concerns, and open-mindedly consider everyone else's opinions and concerns, in all board decision making. I will trust that we all share a constant passion for this organization's mission.
- Exercise my authority as a board member *only* when acting in a meeting with the full board or when appointed by the board.
- Always represent the organization in a positive and supportive manner.
- Bring a sense of humor and active listening to my participation in meetings.
- Work collaboratively with staff and other board members as partners toward achievement of our goals.

- Strictly maintain the confidentiality of all privileged or sensitive information provided to me to safeguard the organization’s reputation and integrity, as well as the privacy rights of individuals and donors connected with the organization and the Board. I accept this principle as one that should survive my period of board service.
- I also understand that my commitment is to serve as a member of the board is for a minimum of one, 3-year term, and that if I am unable to fulfill this term, I will advise the board chair in writing with adequate notice and will perform due diligence in identifying a candidate to fill my vacancy.

If I do not fulfill these commitments to the organization, I will expect the board chair to discuss my responsibilities with me.

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In turn, I expect the organization to be responsible to me in the following ways:

- Providing me with regular financial reports and analyses and updates on significant organizational and personnel activities.
- Providing me with opportunities to discuss important organizational issues with the board chair and executive director as appropriate.
- Offering me opportunities to engage as a member of the WLA community.
- Maintaining appropriate directors’ and officers’ liability insurance (D&O).
- The staff and board members will respond in a straightforward fashion to questions that I feel are necessary to fulfill my responsibilities to this organization. Board members and staff will collaborate with me in good faith toward achievement of our goals.

If the WLA does not fulfill its commitments to me, I can call on the board chair to discuss the organization’s responsibilities.

I certify by my signature that I understand the foregoing expectations that accompany my board service and will do my best to live up to them as a member of the Board of the Women’s Leadership Alliance.

Name of Director

Signature

Date

*Note: Subsequent to its adoption by the Board of Directors, this Statement will be provided to all **continuing** and **prospective** Directors-nominees as appropriate.*