BOARD FELLOWS PROGRAM

NONPROFIT INFORMATION

NONPROFIT APPLICATION OPENS IN DECEMBER!

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Board Fellows Program provides a unique opportunity for Foster MBA and Evans MPA students to contribute to local non-profit organizations as non-voting board members. With this program, Board Fellows become an essential part of boards that impact the lives of over 2.5 million people every year since 1999.

Board Fellows serve as non-voting board members for an academic cycle (from September through May), and complete a board-level project over the course of their placement. Students work closely with the board and executive director of their assigned organization, attend board meetings, serve on committees, and engage with the issues facing the organization. In other words, they serve in the same capacity as any other board member.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- **Fresh Perspective:** Engage with talented Foster MBA and Evans MPA students bringing innovative ideas and skills.
- **Leadership Development:** Nurture the next generation of board leaders and benefit from their diverse perspectives.
- **Strategic Project Support:** Leverage student expertise to propel a crucial board project forward.
- **Recruitment Experience:** Gain insights into recruiting and collaborating with emerging young leaders.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- Nonprofit must have an established board of directors
- Nonprofit must have at least one full-time paid staff member
- Board must hold monthly or bimonthly meetings*
- Board should have at least one standing committee
- Organizational stability – nonprofits who have not been in operation for at least a year will not be considered
- Capacity to support the Board Fellows project
- Nonprofits agree to host two selected student Board Fellows
- Nonprofits must appoint a board mentor to guide and coach Board Fellows

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Foster Consulting and Business Development Center
Program Timeline

NONPROFIT APPLICATION
*December - February*
- Nonprofit application deadline: February 26, 2024

NONPROFIT APPLICATION REVIEW & INTERVIEW
*December - March*
- Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and individual calls are scheduled within two weeks of submission to discuss the application and proposed project.
- Last day to interview: March 1, 2024

NONPROFIT ACCEPTANCE ANNOUNCEMENT
*March*
- Nonprofits selection announcement: March 6, 2024

STUDENT INFORMATION SESSIONS
*February*
- Information sessions are available in-person and Zoom

STUDENT APPLICATION
*March - April*
- Student application deadline: April 15, 2024
- Application includes resume & cover letter

STUDENT APPLICATION REVIEW & SELECT
*April*
- Board Fellows application sent to nonprofits: April 19, 2024
- Nonprofits review & select top 6 students to interview: April 29, 2024

INTERVIEW ANNOUNCEMENT
*May*
- Student selection announcement: May 1, 2024
- Interview schedule available: May 3, 2024

MATCHING & PLACEMENT
*May*
- Matching Day: May 10, 2024
- Last day to turn in your ranking: May 15, 2024
- Matching announcement: May 24, 2024
- Last day to accept placement: May 31, 2024
SAMPLE PROJECTS

**FINANCIAL STRATEGY & ANALYSIS**
- BUSINESS PLANNING
- FUNDING EVALUATION
- BENCHMARKING
- PRICING ANALYSIS/STRATEGIES

**FUNDRAISING ANALYSIS**
- ANNUAL FUND TRENDS
- PLANNED GIVING BEST PRACTICES
- FUNDRAISING INNOVATION

**GOVERNANCE & STRATEGY**
- DASHBOARD DEVELOPMENT
- JUNIOR/ADVISORY BOARD DEVELOPMENT
- BOARD EVALUATION
- STRATEGIC PLANNING
- ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT
- REVISE AND CONSTRUCT UP-TO-DATE OPERATING BYLAWS OR MEETING REGULATIONS

**MARKETING & INSIGHTS**
- BRAND AUDIT
- WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY
- DATA ANALYSIS
- CUSTOMER EVALUATION AND DATA ANALYSIS
- MARKET RESEARCH
- HIRING PRACTICE EVALUATION
- SUCCESSION PLANNING

**TALENT MANAGEMENT/HUMAN RESOURCES**
- COMPENSATION ANALYSIS
- ONBOARDING NEW BOARD MEMBERS
- OFFBOARDING CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS
**WHAT IS EXPECTED FROM THE NONPROFITS?**

For an effective partnership, nonprofits must:
1. Assign a board member as the primary mentor.
2. Designate an executive staff member as the main contact.
3. Provide a formal introduction and set expectations.
4. Enable Board Fellow(s) in meaningful projects.
5. Conduct mid-year and final evaluations.

**HOW MUCH TIME WILL BOARD FELLOWS COMMIT TO NONPROFITS?**

Board Fellows commit up to 10 hours/month, attending board and committee meetings while completing projects.
We strongly encourage the Board Fellow(s) and their mentor(s) to set a regular meeting and communication schedule at the beginning of their engagement.

**TRAINING & SUPPORT**

At the start of the fellowship, an orientation introduces both students and nonprofits to the Board Fellowship Program.
Invitation to workshops and networking events
Ongoing support from UW

**QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?**

Please contact the CBDC staff - Vy Nguyen vyng13@uw.edu
More details, including current partners and student profiles, are located online at https://foster.uw.edu/centers/consulting-and-business-development-center/board-fellows-for-nonprofits/