

Rise School of Denver

Application for the Board of Director

Rise School of Denver | Mission Statement

The purpose of the Rise School of Denver is to provide the highest quality early childhood education for all children, including children with developmental disabilities. We do this by providing exemplary services based on recommended practices for children with diverse abilities and their families.

We offer instructional opportunities through collaboration with therapists and various academic programs at local colleges and universities. We engage in research that positively influences practice in the field of early childhood education at the local, state and national levels.

Rise interfaces with the community through outreach and public awareness activities. Also, Rise disseminates information and provides assistance to other community-based agencies who work in fields related to Early Childhood Special Education and affecting policy and systems change at the local, state and national levels.

1. Candidate Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Cell Phone: _____ Email Address: _____
How did you learn about The Rise School: _____

2. Current position/employer: _____

3. Why are you interested in serving as a Board member for the Rise School of Denver?

4. After reviewing Exhibit A (Duties, Expectations, Qualification, and Appointment of Board Members), do you believe you are a qualified candidate and capable of fulfilling the legal duties and expectations?

5. Please note any area of expertise or contribution you feel you can make to further the mission of Rise.

6. Please list prior experience serving as a Board member, Junior Advisory Board member, and/or Committee member for other non-profit and for-profit organizations.

7. Other than what you have noted in your response to question #6, please share about any other volunteer experience or commitments?

8. Please share any other information you feel important for consideration of your application to serve as a board member.

Please attach a current resume or CV with your application submission. _____ (ENTER EMAIL ADDRESS)

EXHIBIT A

Duties, Expectations, Qualification, and Appointment of Board Members

Legal Duties of Individual Board Members

According to nonprofit corporation law in most states, board members are expected to meet certain standards of conduct and carry out responsibilities to the organization – otherwise referred to as the duty of care, the duty of loyalty, and the duty of obedience.

- A.** Duty of care: The duty of care requires board members to be diligent and prudent in management of the school, the investment of its funds, and the pursuit of its charitable mission. The duty of care does not require that board members make the right decisions in all cases, but only that they make decisions in a fashion in which another prudent person would act. In order to fulfill this duty, board members should actively participate and be informed, including preparing for and attending meetings, serving on committees, carrying out assignments, and representing the school in the community. In practicing the duty of care when making decisions, board members need also be cognizant that the best interests of the communities are served by the school.

- B.** Duty of loyalty: The duty of loyalty requires board members to serve the best interests of the nonprofit, not their own interests. They can do so in the following ways:
 - Handle conflicts of interest appropriately.
 - Don't abuse opportunities or misuse assets. Board members must not use their positions of trust to take personal or professional advantage of opportunities presented to the school. Similarly, they must not use school's assets for personal use.
 - Avoid self-dealing
 - Always hold the school's interests accountable to the greater needs of the community.

- C.** Duty of obedience: The duty of obedience requires board members to be faithful to the nonprofit's central goals and follow the principles established in the nonprofit's bylaws, policies, and mission. Board members must avoid any action that may jeopardize the nonprofit's tax-exempt status and must comply with state and federal laws.

Expectations of Individual Board Members

- Attend at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Board Meetings held each year (currently monthly 1 ½ hour meetings). Note: Board members are allowed to attend board meetings by phone/Zoom. Most meetings are held via Zoom throughout the year, and when we do meet in person, we ask that an effort be made to join in the room, therefore we ask that our members reside in the local, Denver metro area.
- Approve the annual budget.
- Evaluate the performance of the Executive Director.
- Develop and support implementation of the Strategic Plan.

- Fulfill fiduciary responsibilities including oversight of the organization’s financial performance and adherence to mission and values and required standards of practice. Day-to-day management of the Rise School is provided by the Executive Director.
- Recruit Board Members as needed.
- Help ensure financial sustainability of the organization by participating in fundraising opportunities.
- Provide support to the organization in a personally meaningful manner of time, talents and treasures.

Additional Qualifications of Board Members

- Ability to: Attend board meetings during the work week; Listen, analyze, voice opinions in a board meeting; be objective and open-minded.
- Willingness to participate in school activities and donor events and engage with current and prospective donors.
- Possess: Honesty; sensitivity to and tolerance of different views; friendly, responsive, and patient approach; personal integrity; sense of values; respect for Rise.
- Serve as a positive example of the Board and school leadership to the school and broader community.

Appointment

- Board members are appointed to serve for a three year term. Members may be re-appointed to an additional three-year term with a maximum service of two consecutive terms (6 years).
- Positions will be held open until appointments are filled.