



STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

State Bar of Wisconsin Board of Governors' Position Description

The Board of Governors is the State Bar's policymaking body. Governors establish policies and procedures, and ensure the financial stability of the State Bar of Wisconsin. The following duties set out specific roles and responsibilities for each governor.

Governance:

- Know the State Bar's mission and goals as expressed in its Vision and Mission Statements, its Guiding Principles document, the Strategic Priorities statement, and the Diversity and Inclusion Guide, and work toward fulfilling that mission and reaching those goals.
- Be familiar with Bar staff and understand their various roles and functions.
- Prepare for and conscientiously participate in board and committee meetings.
- Fulfill required duties as a liaison to assigned sections or committees.
- Communicate regularly with constituents, including attending local bar meetings as practicable. Governors can be the eyes and ears of the State Bar when communicating with their constituents at bar meetings, asking for input about how the State Bar is helping their practices, and asking for ideas about what the State Bar could be doing better.
- Be well versed in the State Bar's public policy positions and be prepared to explain them to constituents and other members of the Bar.
- Act as an ambassador for the State Bar.

Fiduciary:

- Have sufficient functional knowledge of the Bar's financial structure to be able to meaningfully engage in budget discussions and related approval processes to ensure that the Bar meets its financial and legal obligations.
- Understand the role and function of the Audit committee and ensure that the annual audit is presented in an understandable manner to the Board.
- Exercise fiduciary responsibilities, including the following:
 - Demonstrate reasonable competence that an ordinarily prudent person would exercise;
 - Use reasonable care when making decisions as a governor;
 - Act in the Bar's best interests;
 - Avoid using status as a governor for personal gain or in a manner that is inconsistent with the goals of the Bar; and
 - Ensure that members' funds are used in a financially prudent manner to fulfill the Bar's mission and goals.