UNITED WAY Central Oklahoma | BOARD SERVE

CLASS IX APPLICATION

Board Serve Central Oklahoma is a unique program of the United Way of Central Oklahoma designed to improve nonprofit boards by recruiting, training and matching board members with nonprofit agencies.

The seven-month program provides professional training on topics including nonprofit board governance, leadership skills, nonprofit law, fundraising, crisis management and other critical skills needed to serve on a nonprofit board.

Upon completion of the program, each participant is matched with a nonprofit to serve as a voting board member for at least one year.

Benefits:

Nonprofit board service is a rewarding experience that offers opportunities to:

- Connect with others who share your passion
- Contribute your skills and expertise to strengthen nonprofit organizations in central Oklahoma
- Support the community in which you live or work
- Advocate on behalf of a nonprofit's mission
- Develop new skills and enhance your leadership abilities
- Expand your social and professional network

Eligibility:

Board Serve participants should be individuals who are interested in nonprofit board service and meet the following criteria:

- Exhibit diversity in life experience, ethnicity, geographic location and profession
- Professional expertise in any of the following fields: accounting, human resources, law, information technology, management and operations, marketing, public relations, fundraising, strategic planning and others
- Interest in and enthusiasm for board service and volunteerism
- Attendance in monthly, three-hour training sessions from February-August

February 9	Orientation
March 9	Board Governance
April 13	Marketing & Crisis Public Relations
May 11	Resource Development
June 8	Nonprofit Financials & Strategic Planning
July 13	CEO & Board Panel
August 10	Nonprofit Law & Ethics
September 14	Graduation

Program Requirements

- Attendance and active engagement is required at seven monthly sessions, 5:30-8:30 p.m., February through August 2027, at United Way of Central Oklahoma, plus a graduation ceremony in September 2027.
- Board Serve graduates are expected to accept placement on a United Way Partner Agency board for at least one year.
- If accepted, a one-time, non-refundable program fee of $350 is required for each participant.

Application Guidelines

- Complete the application form available at unitedwayokc.org/boardserve.
- Include two reference letters, a personal biography and headshot with application.
- **Submit all application materials by October 16, 2026**

Selection Criteria

- Selection is based on the completed application and supplemental documents.
- Interviews may be requested.
- **Applicants will be notified of selection by December 2, 2026.**

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First Name: _____ Middle: _____ Last Name: _____

Preferred Name: _____

Company: _____ Number of Years with Company: _____

Job Title/Role: _____

Company Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Office Phone: _____ Office Email: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Preferred Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Emergency Contact Phone:_____

Please answer the following questions, in 250 words or less:

1. Why are you interested in Board Serve Central Oklahoma, and what do you hope to gain from the program?

2. Why should United Way of Central Oklahoma be interested in you as a participant in the Board Serve Central Oklahoma Program?

3. How do you feel that serving as a volunteer on a nonprofit board will enhance your personal or professional life?

4. Have you taken any courses or workshops on nonprofit (or corporate) governance or board development in the past? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please list below:

5. Are you currently serving on a nonprofit board? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, list:

6. Please check the top skills/expertise areas that you possess:

- ☐ Accounting/Auditing
- ☐ Communications/PR
- ☐ Consulting
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Event Planning
- ☐ Health Care
- HR/Organizational Development
- ☐ Insurance
- Legal
- Management

7. Please check the nonprofit program area that you are interested in (please limit to 3 choices or less):

Youth Opportunity
- ☐ Youth and Family Services
- ☐ At Risk Youth
- ☐ After School Programs
- ☐ Specialized Service for Children
- ☐ Youth Development

Financial Security:
- ☐ Personal & Family Development
- ☐ Individual/Family/Community Services

Community Resiliency:
- ☐ Older Adults Services
- ☐ Specialized Services for Adults

Healthy Community:
- ☐ Community Health & Education
- ☐ Individual/Family Crisis

8. How often do you participate in formal volunteer activities or events?
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Quarterly
- ☐ Annually
- ☐ Other:
- ☐ N/A

9. Please list your volunteer activities below:

10. How did you hear about Board Serve Central Oklahoma?
- ☐ Referred by friend or co-worker
- ☐ Supervisor
- ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Past Board Serve member
- ☐ United Way website

(The following information is not required but requested to help ensure diversity in the class.)

Birth Date: _____*Gender:* _____ *Race or Ethnic Designation:* _____

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Gender nonbinary/Gender queer/ Gender non-conforming
- ☐ Decline to state

- ☐ Asian American/Pacific Islander/Asian
- ☐ Black/African American/African
- ☐ Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Latinx
- ☐ Native American/American Indian/Indigenous
- ☐ White/Caucasian/European
- ☐ Multi-racial/Multi-ethnic (two+ races/ethnicities)
- ☐ Different identity (please specify below)
- ☐ Decline to state
- ☐ Other: _____

Application Deadline: October 16, 2026

Please submit completed form with two reference letters, personal biography and headshot to:

Bridget Ramos, Corporate Volunteer & Special Projects Manager at BoardServe@unitedwayokc.org
or mail to United Way of Central Oklahoma, 1444 NW 28th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73106

Questions? Call 405-236-8441