

UTeach STEM Educators Association (USEA) Executive Board Nominations Frequently Asked Questions

WHO IS THE IDEAL BOARD CANDIDATE?

There is no “ideal” board candidate. Instead, USEA wants its board to include individuals with diverse work, life, social, and educational backgrounds so that it can make well-rounded decisions that reflect its entire membership. USEA seeks true diversity—in terms of age, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, industry, location, and work roles—in its board.

WHAT DO BOARD VOLUNTEERS DO?

Board members are responsible for strategically thinking, planning, and evaluating on behalf of the association. While staff and volunteers typically execute USEA programs, the board is responsible for envisioning the programs, setting their direction, and evaluating them for progress and success. As leaders, board members help set the agenda.

WHAT DO BOARD VOLUNTEERS GET IN RETURN FOR THEIR SERVICE?

Executive Board members are supported in their work by the UTeach Institute professional association coordinator and various Institute staff. The board members also receive funding for travel, housing, and registration to attend the Executive Board meeting at the UTeach Annual Conference.

HOW MUCH TIME DOES BOARD SERVICE REQUIRE?

Although board members must be willing to invest time in preparing for and thoughtfully participating in board meetings, the time commitment is not onerous. The USEA Executive Board meets three times per year; once in person for about half a day in conjunction with the UTeach Annual Conference and twice via web conference for a couple of hours. Finally, board members are expected to attend the UTeach Annual Conference and any ad hoc conference calls.

CAN I NOMINATE MYSELF?

Yes. USEA members may nominate themselves for board service by following the same procedures they would use to nominate someone else.

WHAT’S THE NOMINATING PROCESS?

USEA’s Leadership Development Committee will call for board nominations in August/September each year. The committee will review the nominations based on the established criteria in October. The committee will then recommend one candidate per position for the slate, which will be presented to the USEA president by November 1. The slate will be sent to the USEA membership by December 1.

ANNUAL TIMELINE:

- September 30: Deadline for nominations
- October 17: Deadline for Leadership Development Committee to review and rank finalists
- November 1: Board slate presented to USEA president
- December 1: Board slate presented to USEA membership

WHAT IF I'M NOMINATED, BUT NOT SELECTED?

There is always next year! And there are many other volunteer opportunities within USEA. Look for the call for committee volunteers in January.

HOW DO I NOMINATE A CANDIDATE?

If you know of an individual who meets the Leadership Development Committee's criteria, and who might be willing to serve on the USEA Executive Board, submit their name and contact information at the following link:

https://utexascns.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_5ulsKRuCRsBESY5

The nominee will then be contacted with the information for the board application.

WHO CAN ANSWER OTHER QUESTIONS THAT I HAVE?

For more information about the nominating process or about nominating criteria, contact Jo Hamilton, USEA member services coordinator, at hamilton@uteach.utexas.edu.