

CHAPTER BOARD MEMBER SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL

STATE:

The intent of the board self-assessment tool is to determine how satisfied board members are with board processes and how individual members and the board can most effectively support the organization.

This assessment process helps board members:

- Reflect on their experiences
- Explore comfortable, enjoyable, and meaningful participation on the board
- Understand individual expectations for preparation time, how meetings are run, and how decisions made
- Identify different perceptions and opinions among board members about the board’s role
- Identify and remove obstacles to increase board effectiveness

Board Self-Assessment

Place a check mark in the box that best represents your opinion. The rating scale for each statement is:

Strongly Agree (5) Agree (4) Maybe/Not Sure (3) Disagree (2) Strongly Disagree (1)

SECTION 1: How is the board performing?		Strongly agree 5	Agree 4	Maybe/ Not sure 3	Disagree 2	Strongly disagree 1
1.	Board meetings focus on important organizational matters.					
2.	Board agendas clearly reflect the strategic plan or priorities.					
3.	The board has a yearly operational budget.					
4.	Materials related to significant decisions are given to the board far enough in advance of the meetings.					
5.	The amount of materials to read prior to the meetings is reasonable.					
6.	The board has a clear process for making decisions.					
7.	It is clear how urgent matters will be handled between meetings.					
8.	Board members come to meetings prepared.					
9.	The organization’s financial position is transparent and financial information is easy to comprehend.					
10.	There is ample follow-up on assigned tasks and responsibilities.					

(continued)

ILA CHAPTER BOARD MEMBER SELF-ASSESSMENT (continued)

SECTION 1: How is the board performing?		Strongly agree 5	Agree 4	Maybe/ Not sure 3	Disagree 2	Strongly disagree 1
11.	Board members understand that they do not have authority to act on behalf of the board or the organization (unless specified in the bylaws or through a board decision).					
12.	The board sets clear goals that are realistic and relevant to the strategic plan.					
13.	The board is encouraging and professional when dealing with different points of view.					
14.	The board sets resource development goals and actively supports fundraising and resource development efforts.					

Overall rating (add the point value of your answers):

Excellent (60+)

Very Good (54–60)

Good (42–53)

Satisfactory (29–41)

Poor (14–28)

SECTION 2: Personal impression as a board member?		Strongly agree 5	Agree 4	Maybe/ Not Sure 3	Disagree 2	Strongly disagree 1
1.	I actively participate as a board member.					
2.	I understand my responsibilities as a board member.					
3.	It is clear to me how the board will resolve important decisions.					
4.	As a new board member, I was prepared with sufficient information and training.					
5.	I feel that I have a clear understanding of the mission and activities of the organization.					
6.	I feel that I have the information I need to effectively represent the organization to the community and to ask for financial support.					
7.	I feel that other members listen to my opinions.					
8.	I feel that I can comfortably disagree with another member or with staff.					
9.	If a friend or valued professional contact was a good match for the board's needs, I would be willing to recruit them.					
10.	I am fully satisfied with the work of the board overall.					

Overall rating (add the point value of your answers):

Excellent (41+)

Very Good (36–40)

Good (28–35)

Satisfactory (21–27)

Poor (10–20)

(continued)

ILA CHAPTER BOARD MEMBER SELF-ASSESSMENT (continued)

Please list the three areas where you would like to see the **board improve its performance** in the next year. Be as specific as possible.

1.

2.

3.

Please list the three areas you consider a top priority for the board to strategically focus on in the next year. Be as specific as possible.

1.

2.

3.

Overall Comments: