

## Role of the board of directors

The role of the board of directors for a not-for-profit corporation is to provide governance and oversight to ensure the organization fulfills its mission and operates in a responsible and ethical manner. While the specific duties and responsibilities of the board may vary depending on the organization's size, structure, and purpose, here are some common roles and responsibilities:

1. **Mission and Vision:** The board is responsible for defining and periodically reviewing the organization's mission and strategic vision. They ensure that all activities align with these objectives.
2. **Governance:** Boards establish the bylaws and policies that govern the organization. They also ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
3. **Leadership:** Boards hire, evaluate, and, if necessary, terminate the organization's executive director or CEO. They provide guidance and support to the executive leadership. [CEO: Volunteer or Paid?](#)
4. **Financial Oversight:** The board is responsible for the organization's financial health. This includes approving budgets, monitoring financial performance, and ensuring that the organization operates within its means.
5. **Fundraising and Resource Development:** Boards often play a significant role in fundraising by helping to identify potential donors, making contributions themselves, and participating in fundraising events or campaigns.
6. **Strategic Planning:** Boards are involved in long-term strategic planning, setting goals and objectives for the organization, and monitoring progress toward these goals.
7. **Risk Management:** They assess and manage risks that could affect the organization, including financial, legal, and reputational risks.
8. **Legal and Ethical Compliance:** Boards ensure that the organization complies with all applicable laws and regulations. They also uphold ethical standards and oversee the organization's adherence to its stated values.
9. **Accountability:** Boards hold the organization accountable for its actions and results. They monitor performance and evaluate the impact of programs and initiatives.
10. **Community Engagement:** Boards often serve as ambassadors for the organization, building relationships with stakeholders, partners, and the community to advance the organization's mission.
11. **Conflict Resolution:** Boards may be involved in resolving conflicts within the organization, whether they relate to staff, volunteers, or other stakeholders.
12. **Board Development:** The board is responsible for recruiting and training new board members to ensure a diverse and skilled group of individuals who can effectively govern the organization.
13. **Transparency:** Boards communicate regularly with stakeholders, including donors and the public, about the organization's activities, financial health, and impact.

It's important to note that not-for-profit boards typically consist of volunteers who are not compensated for their service. Board members should act in the best interests of the organization and avoid conflicts of interest. The specific roles and responsibilities of a not-for-profit board

may be outlined in the organization's bylaws and can vary depending on its size, purpose, and legal structure.