2026 OFN Board Candidate Profile

At its October 2026 OFN Annual Conference, Opportunity Finance Network's (OFN) Members will elect three (3) Board Members from the Membership. The purpose of this document is to describe the priorities that the OFN Board has set for prospective candidates.

OFN Board Members help lead community development finance and provide oversight of OFN's strategy. For this reason, and in alignment with current opportunities and challenges OFN is particularly interested in identifying candidates with a wide range of perspectives, a passion for OFN's core purpose and mission, and strengths in:

- **Executive leadership**, including vision and strategic thinking, organizational design, systems thinking, culture building, stakeholder management, operational excellence, and partnership development;
- **Finance and capital markets,** including financial strategy, forecasting, macroeconomic interpretation, capital structure, portfolio management, treasury management, impact investing, bond markets, and securitization;
- **Capitalization and fundraising**, including institutional and philanthropic fundraising, partnership development, relationship management and stewardship, planned giving, blended finance, and capital campaigns;
- **Legal and risk management**, including corporate structuring and governance, enterprise risk management, data governance, policy development; and,
- **Strategic communications and stakeholder mobilization**, including state and regional stakeholder engagement, community and economic development communications, coalition building, customer/member communications, content strategy, and public policy communications.

The Board believes it is important that the organizations represented on the Board reflect the range of types of financing, asset size, geographic reach, etc., of its members, and that the individuals on the Board represent a variety of racial, ethnic, gender, position level, and geographic perspectives.

The Board Composition Matrix and Comparison Chart profiles the current Board and how the organizations represented on the Board compare to OFN's member organizations.

The Board is seeking candidates who are committed to performance and are willing and able to serve as effective ambassadors to external groups and/or constituencies; who bring diverse perspectives and are able to represent them effectively in Board settings; and who understand or are willing to work to understand the external context in which OFN works— including financial markets, public policy, development theory and practice, business strategy, and organizational development.

Eligibility

Prospective candidates must represent (as a staff or Board Member) a current OFN membership organization in good standing[1]. All Members are invited to consider Board service. OFN members select Board Members in an election process that will begin in July 2026 and culminate in October 2026 during the Annual Conference.

Board Scope, Term, Level of Effort

Board Members serve three-year terms (the maximum number of terms is two).

Board Members are expected to participate in six Board meetings (at least two in person three virtually) including a meeting during the annual conference. In addition, all Board Members serve on two or more Board Committees, with the exception of the Board Chair.

OFN's Board is a strategic board focused on aligning the organization's work with its mission and core purpose. Board Members are not expected to assist in fundraising and/or capitalization; in rare instances, a Board Member might be asked to participate because of a unique relationship. Elected OFN Board Members represent the interests of the Membership in the context of OFN's mission and strategy.

Board Candidate Responsibilities

Prospective candidates will be required to submit a written statement to the OFN Membership describing their qualifications for the Board and make a brief (three-minute or less) speech to the Membership at the Annual Membership Meeting during the Annual Conference.

Candidates may also produce and distribute other campaign materials at their discretion.

OFN's Mission & Vision

Opportunity Finance Network's mission is to lead CDFIs and their partners to ensure that low-income, low-wealth, and other disadvantaged people and communities have access to responsible, affordable financial products and services.

OFN exists to align capital with opportunity. OFN will pursue this purpose for as long as it takes to achieve. When capital and opportunity are aligned, all people will have the resources and opportunities to act in the best interests of their communities, themselves, and future generations. This is OFN's vision.

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1 "Good standing" is defined as having completed the 2026 Annual Member Survey and paid 2026 Membership dues at the time that nominations close.