



P+PB Board of Directors Frequently Asked Questions



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Q: *How long is a board term?*

A: Typically, board terms are for three-years and begin on January 1 and end on December 31.

Q: *How many terms is a board member allowed to serve?*

A: A member may serve two full consecutive or non-consecutive three-year terms or six years total.

Q: *Who holds the seat - the appointee or the company the appointee represents?*

A: The appointee holds the seat.

Q: *Who can nominate for domestic or importer seats?*

A: Only companies that manufacture or import 100,000 short tons or more of paper and/or paper-based packaging can seek or be nominated. In other words, only companies that are paying into the paper checkoff can seek or be nominated for a board seat.

Q: *What companies are eligible to be nominated for the open seats?*

A: Contact Patti Boerger pboerger@paperandpackaging.org for a list of eligible companies.

Q: *What companies are on the P+PB board in 2024?*

A: There is an 8-member board and current companies on the board include: Pactiv Evergreen, Domtar, Sappi North America, Graphic Packaging, Billerud, WestRock, International Paper and Smurfit Kappa.

Q: *Can a company nominate someone to run for the board from its own company?*

A: Yes, you can nominate an individual from your company to run for an open board seat if your company meets the nominating criteria for the seat.

Q: *Can a company nominate multiple people to run for an open seat?*

A: Yes, a company may nominate multiple people for an open seat.

Q: *Can more than one employee from a company sit on the Board at the same time?*

A: No. The federal Order that governs the checkoff states that no company can have more than one board member at a time.

Q: *Is a nominee permitted to seek nomination in more than one region if his or her company has a mill in more than one region?*

A: No. A nominee must choose one region in which to seek nomination.



Q: *Can a nominee be nominated in a region where the nominee's company doesn't have a mill?*

A: No. Companies must manufacture paper and/or paper-based packaging in the region for which they seek nomination or are being nominated.

Q: *What states comprise the South region?*

A: The South is defined as the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, states make up the "Other parts of the U.S." region designation.

Q: *What happens if a board member leaves the company or the board before his or her term expires?*

A: If a board member ceases to work for or be affiliated with a manufacturer or importer, his or her seat will become vacant. The vacancy, and the unfinished term, will be filled either using the board's nomination process or the Board may recommend that the Secretary fill the position from the most recent list of nominations for the region or position.

Q: *What happens if a board member changes positions within the same company?*

A: If a board member takes a new job within the same company, his or her position on the Board will not be affected.

Q: *Will board members be reimbursed for expenses associated with their service?*

A: There are funds set aside for travel to Board of Directors meetings and other board-specific business; however, current board members have informally agreed to pay their own travel expenses to meetings to minimize administrative expenses.

Q: *Generally, how much time is required to serve as a board member?*

A: There are three meetings per year with at least two in-person meetings of 3-4 hours and the others are held virtually and are typically two hours in length. In addition, board members may serve on committees or working group assignments and will have occasional brief meetings on an as-needed basis.

Q: *Can the Board ask someone to step aside? Under what circumstances?*

A: The Board may recommend to the Secretary a member be removed from office if the member consistently fails or refuses to perform his or her duties properly or engages in dishonest acts or willful misconduct. The Secretary will determine whether to remove the member from office.

Q: *Does participation on the Paper and Packaging Board, which is dedicated to industry promotion, pose a unique antitrust risk?*

A: Courts have found that the U.S. antitrust laws do not apply to marketing programs established by the government. Nevertheless, the Board conducts its business in accordance with antitrust laws, and as a measure of added protection, an attorney attends all board and committee meetings.

Q: *What happens after the nominations are submitted to the Nominations Committee?*



A: The Board evaluates all the nominees and recommends two names for each open seat. Other qualified persons interested in serving in the open seats, but not recommended by the Board will be submitted and designated as additional nominees for consideration by the Secretary. USDA runs background checks on all nominees. The Secretary of Agriculture appoints the board members from the nominees submitted.

Q: *What happens if a nominee is not selected by the Secretary of Agriculture – would they be eligible to run again for a future seat?*

A: Yes. if a nominee would like to run again for an open seat for which they qualify, they can submit their nomination during the nomination process in the spring annually.