

**The Forum
of Executive
Women**

**Membership
*Criteria***

Join
the
Forum

A photograph of two women on a stage in front of a brick wall. The woman on the right, wearing a brown hijab and glasses, is speaking into a microphone. The woman on the left, wearing a white shirt and a red floral skirt, is smiling. The image is partially overlaid with large yellow text.

**PHILADELPHIA'S PREMIER
NETWORK OF WOMEN LEADERS**

Criteria

Full Membership

Prospective members must be sponsored by two current members and meet the criteria below.

Potential members of The Forum of Executive Women are individuals who:

- Have a track record of professional achievement, recognized leaders in their field, and have a broad sphere of influence.
- Have significant managerial experience.
- Demonstrate a commitment to the mission, guiding principles, and vision of The Forum.

Civic Engagement:

Community leadership is a key component of full membership. Potential members demonstrate leadership and a civic commitment in their communities, outside of their place of employment, which indicates that they will be active participants in The Forum and will advance its mission.

Examples of civic engagement that qualify for full membership consideration include:

- Current service on a nonprofit, philanthropic, or civic board of directors
- Public service or appointment to a governmental, academic, or policy advisory body
- Currently leading community-based initiatives or social impact projects (cont'd next page)

Examples of civic engagement that qualify for full membership consideration include (cont'd):

- Significant philanthropic leadership, such as chairing fundraising campaigns.
- Leadership within membership-based organizations that emphasize service, philanthropy, or leadership development.
- Volunteering expertise or time in a sustained leadership capacity, e.g. donating significant pro bono service hours annually as part of a nonprofit partnership.

A potential member also meets one or more of the applicable categories:

Publicly Traded Companies, their Subsidiaries or Major Divisions

- Occupies a seat on the company's Board of Directors or a C-suite or senior executive position at the headquarters or at a major subsidiary or affiliate of the company, based upon the size and structure of the organization.
- Has broad strategic and managerial responsibility, including P&L responsibility and/or leadership of significant control functions.

Closely Held or Privately Owned Businesses

- Directs the business full-time as the CEO, President, or member of the C-suite.
- Is a shareholder of the business.
- Has direct responsibility for revenue to the business.

Professional Services Firms

- Is a Partner or equivalent.
- Has experience in leadership roles within the firm.
- Has demonstrated interaction at the C-suite level in the corporate/business community with significant clients served.

Start-ups, Consultancies & Solo Practitioners

- Has been active in directing the business for at least three years or has an established background in the same business or professional arena.
- Have reached objective measures of demonstrated success in impact, reach, visibility, business development, revenue and/or through other comparable benchmarks to an industry peer group.
- Demonstrates interaction as peers at a senior level with the corporate/business community.

Not-for-Profit Sector

- Serves as the Executive Director, or its equivalent, or if employed by a large not-for-profit organization, holds a senior leadership role with significant strategic and managerial responsibilities.
- Demonstrates interaction with senior levels of the corporate/business community.
- The not-for-profit serves many clients and has a significant budget and/or scope of service or if a smaller not-for-profit, the impact and reach of the work is meaningful.

Political Office and the Government Sector

- Serves in one of the following roles:
- C-suite of federal, state, or local governments;
- Members of Congress or state legislators;
- Cabinet members or holds equivalent positions with federal, state, or local governments;
- City Council members, County Commissioners or Township Managers; or
- Positions in government that are comparable in scope to senior roles in corporations or professional firms.

Colleges, Universities and Graduate Institutions

- Serves in one of the following roles:
- President of a college, university, or graduate institution; Chief Academic Officer of a college, university, or graduate institution, e.g., Provost;
- Vice President or other member of the President's or Dean's Senior Management Team/Cabinet;
- Chief Academic Officer/Dean of a college within a university or graduate institution; or
- Director of a large administrative Division, Center, or Institute with a significant budget and/or headcount.

Women of Distinction or Equivalent

- Demonstrates an outstanding record of achievement and significant business or professional accomplishments comparable to that required in any of the sectors listed above.
- Demonstrates continuing, active participation in the business and/or civic community through membership in or leadership of civic and/or professional organizations, including service on significant corporate or not-for-profit boards.
- Is a decision maker or has significant access to decision makers and those in roles of authority.

Retired (No active employment)

- Served in one or more positions described above and is currently retired;
- Served in one or more positions described above and is currently retired and serves on the Board of Directors of a publicly traded, closely-held or privately owned company/and or not-for-profit and/or educational institution; or
- Served in one or more positions described above and is currently retired and seeks a seat on the Board of Directors of a publicly traded, closely-held or privately owned company and/or not-for-profit and/or educational institution.

Criteria

Spark Membership

Prospective members must be sponsored by two current members and meet the criteria below.

Potential Spark members of The Forum of Executive Women are individuals who:

- Are three to five years away from a role that would qualify them for full membership (see criteria above)
- Currently demonstrates leadership qualities such as strategic thinking, ability to inspire, capacity to engage colleagues around a vision, and have both the desire and potential to continue to progress into future leadership roles.
- Aspire to develop/strengthen their sphere of influence professionally and in the community.
- Have experience supervising/managing employees.
- Are emerging in their industry/company and who have demonstrated success and continuing career progression aspirations.
- Demonstrate a commitment to the mission, guiding principles, and vision of The Forum.
- Demonstrate a civic commitment in their communities, either within their business/place of employment, and/or externally, which indicates that they will be active participants in The Forum and will advance its mission.

A potential Spark member also meets one or more of the applicable categories:

Publicly Traded Companies, their Subsidiaries or Major Divisions

- Occupies a senior position at the headquarters or at a major subsidiary or affiliate of the company, based upon the size and structure of the organization.
- Has broad responsibility, including a segment of the P&L and/or equivalent contributory functions.

Closely-Held or Privately Owned Businesses

- Reports directly to the CEO, President, or member of the C-suite.
- Is on track to become a shareholder in the business.
- Supports a leader who has direct responsibility for revenue to the business.

Professional Services Firm

- Is a senior associate/project manager/director on path to progression.
- Participates in firm committees.
- Has demonstrated interaction with peers who are direct reports to those at the C-suite level in the corporate/business community with significant clients served.

Start-ups, Consultancies & Solo Practitioners

- Directly reports to the person directing the business for at least two years or has an established background in the same business or professional arena.
- Shows commitment to and progress towards reaching objective measures of demonstrated success in impact, reach, visibility, business development, revenue and/or through other comparable benchmarks to an industry peer group.
- Demonstrates interaction as peers at a junior level with the corporate/business community (cont'ed next page).

Not-for-Profit Sector

- Serves as the Associate Director, or its equivalent, or if employed by a large not-for-profit organization, directly reports to a senior leader.
- Demonstrates interaction with junior levels of the corporate/business community.
- The not-for-profit serves many clients and has a significant budget and/or scope of service, or if a smaller not-for-profit, the impact and reach of the work is meaningful.

Political Office and the Government Sector

- Serves in one of the following roles:
- Directly reports to a member of the C-Suite of federal, state, or local governments;
- Chief of Staff for Members of Congress or state legislators;
- Chief of Staff for Cabinet members or holds equivalent positions with federal, state, or local governments;
- Chief of Staff for City Council members, County Commissioners or Township Managers; or
- Positions in government that are comparable in scope to junior roles in corporations or professional firms.

Colleges, Universities and Graduate Institutions

- Reports directly to one of the following roles:
- President of a college, university, or graduate institution;
- Chief Academic Officer of a college, university, or graduate institution, e.g., Provost;
- Vice President or other member of the President's or Dean's Senior Management Team/Cabinet;
- Chief Academic Officer/Dean of a college within a university or graduate institution; or
- Director of a large administrative Division, Center, or Institute with a significant budget and/or headcount.

Criteria

Geographically Remote

Prospective members must be sponsored by two current members and meet the criteria below.

Please see the requirements for Full Membership with the additional component:

- Lives and works outside of the Greater Philadelphia Region, i.e., PA -- Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery; NJ – Burlington, Camden, Gloucester; DE – New Castle, Salem; MD – Cecil (applicable to Geographically Remote only).

Criteria

Sustaining

Please see the requirements for Full Membership with the additional component:

- Those who have left their primary career and are largely retired or exploring “what’s next.”