



WASHINGTON STATE

Board of Health

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News Release

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Board seeks three new members

The Washington State Board of Health is looking for up to three new members “experienced in matters of health and sanitation.” One appointee must be a health official from a federally recognized tribe.

The Board is a constitutional agency. Its mission is to provide statewide leadership in developing and promoting policies that protect and improve the public's health. This mission is achieved by:

- Reviewing and monitoring the health status of all people in Washington;
- Initiating and supporting policy development, analyzing policy proposals, providing guidance, and developing rules;
- Promoting system partnerships; and
- Fostering public participation in shaping the health system.

The Board has ten members—the secretary of health or a designee and nine members appointed by the governor. Four of those nine appointees represent health and sanitation, two represent consumers, two represent local elected officials, and one must be a local health officer. The governor selects one of the appointees to serve as chair.

The Board anticipates up to three vacancies beginning in July 2010. Appointments are typically for three-year terms and reappointment to a second term may be possible. Past health and sanitation representatives typically have been health care providers, environmental health specialists, and administrators of health care facilities or public health departments.

In recent years, the Board has held eight to ten one-day meetings a year at various locations around the state. Meetings typically occur on the second Wednesday of the month. Because of state revenue declines, however, the Board has been meeting less frequently and travelling less. From July 2010 through June 2011, meetings will probably be held electronically to reduce travel costs. Most Board members also volunteer to participate on committees that focus on specific policy areas.

Critical roles filled by the members who may be departing after serving two terms include chair of the Board, liaison to local environmental health, and representative to the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities.

To apply on line, visit the <http://governor.wa.gov/boards/default.asp>. For information about the Board, visit the [Board of Health Web site](http://www.sboh.wa.gov) (www.sboh.wa.gov). For additional information, contact Executive Director Craig McLaughlin at craig.mclaughlin@doh.wa.gov or (360) 236-4106.

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<p>The Board's mission is to provide statewide leadership in advancing policies that protect and improve the public's health. It does this by reviewing and monitoring the health status of all people in Washington; analyzing policies, providing guidance, and developing rules; promoting system partnerships; and encouraging public engagement in the public health system. For more information, visit the Board of Health Web site (www.sboh.wa.gov/).</p>
