**Membership Applicant Information/Application Process**

**Please see the instructions below and please fulfill all requirements for your application to be considered.**

The Governor’s Committee on Disability Issues & Employment (GCDE) is recruiting to fill five (5) vacancies for 2022. The Committee comprises 27 volunteer members appointed by the Governor to serve an initial three-year term, with the possibility of being appointed to a second three-year term.

**We accept applications throughout the year, but we will consider only applications received by October 15, 2021 for January 2022 appointment. Applications received after October 15, 2021 will be considered at a later date if vacancies exist.**

**Requirements:**

Executive Order (EO-87-08) that established the GCDE includes specific membership requirements:

• The chairperson and members of the committee shall be appointed by the Governor.

• At least 50% of GCDE members shall be persons with a disability. Up to 10% of committee members may be family members of persons with a disability, or advocates/professionals who work with the disability community.

• Members shall be selected to represent a wide variety of physical, developmental, and sensory disabilities. We also consider geographic location within Washington, occupation, gender, age, socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, veteran status, and diversity of viewpoints in our recommendations for appointment to the Committee.

Thank you for your interest in serving the disability community through the GCDE. If you have questions, please contact Elaine Stefanowicz, Membership Program Coordinator, at 360-890-3774 or by

email at [elaine.stefanowicz@esd.wa.gov](mailto:elaine.stefanowicz@esd.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Patricia Bauccio

GCDE Chairperson

**How to apply:**

1. Complete the online application available through the Governor’s Boards and Commissions Office at <https://www.governor.wa.gov/boards-commissions/boards-commissions/apply-serve-board-or-commission>.

• GCDE is shown in the drop-down menu listing all Boards & Commissions as “Disability Issues and Employment, Governor’s Committee on.”

• Under “Memberships in professional, civic organizations or government boards or commissions,” include any experience you have as a person with a disability, as a family member of a person with a disability, or your involvement with organizations that serve people with disabilities. You have limited space, so be precise.

Before starting to complete the online application described above, please contact Elaine Stefanowicz, GCDE Membership Program Coordinator at [estefanowicz@esd.wa.gov](mailto:estefanowicz@esd.wa.gov) or by phone at 360-890-3774.

* + Elaine will send you a link to the GCDE Supplemental Applicant Questionnaire which contains more detailed questions related to your interest in becoming a member of the GCDE.
  + If you prefer to complete this form in a different format, please contact Elaine to request a fillable Word document.

**What happens next?**

* After the deadline for applications (October 15, 2021), GCDE Membership Subcommittee members will review all complete applications and will select applicants for interviews. We will contact you to schedule a phone or videoconference interview if you are selected.

• After the interview, Subcommittee members will contact your references and will meet to discuss findings. Subcommittee members will recommend to the Governor’s Boards and Commissions Office a list of applicants to be appointed to the GCDE.

• If you are recommended to the Governor’s Boards & Commissions Office for appointment and are currently employed, we will send you a letter from GCDE to you to give to your employer asking for confirmation that you would be allowed to commit time to the GCDE in addition to your job duties.

• The Governor makes all appointments to the GCDE. Our recommendation to the Boards & Commissions Office does constitute a guarantee that you would be appointed by the Governor.

• The goal of the GCDE is to have new members appointed by the Governor by January 1, 2022.

**About serving on the committee**

GCDE members are asked to participate in:

* Three in-person meetings of the full GCDE per year, usually held in the Olympia-Lacey area. (We are currently meeting online due to Covid-19 and social distancing guidelines.)
* Regular phone/videoconference meetings, and occasional in-person meetings, of the GCDE subcommittees that manage and implement GCDE programs.
* Ad hoc workgroups created to address specific tasks or issues for the benefit of the disability community.

The GCDE has five standing subcommittees that manage GCDE programs. New members are asked to volunteer to serve on the 1-2 subcommittees that most interest them. The GCDE chairperson makes final decisions about subcommittee appointments based on the needs of the subcommittees.