

Volunteer Opportunity: Client Protection Board

Entity Type:

- Board
- Committee
- Council
- Other Bar Entity

Created By:

- WSBA
- Supreme Court
- Court Rule

Term:

- One Year
- Two Years
- Three Years
- Four Years

Meetings:

- In-Person Only
- Virtual Only
- Hybrid

Eligibility:

License Type:

- Lawyer
- LLLT
- LPO

License Status:

- Active
- Inactive
- Judicial
- Honorary
- Pro Bono

Public Members:

- Yes
- No

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Questions?

Per Admission and Practice Rule 15, the Client Protection Board reviews applications for reimbursement of financial loss sustained by clients of WSBA members who have engaged in dishonest actions or have failed to account for client funds. It decides on claims up to \$25,000 and makes recommendations to the Board of Governors (BOG) on claims for greater amounts, with a maximum gift of \$150,000. The Board reviews approximately 80 to 100 applications for reimbursement per year.

Benefits: The work of the Board is interesting and rewarding, providing monetary assistance to people in need. Board members can apply to serve as Chair.

Time commitment: Attend quarterly meetings (November, February, May and August) lasting 2 to 4 hours. Meeting length varies depending on the number of applications reviewed. Summarized reports on applications, and supporting materials, are provided prior to each meeting. Meetings are held at WSBA's Seattle offices, while virtual attendance is an option.

Requirements:

- Members of WSBA and members of the public are eligible to apply.
- Board members must be able to access and review meeting materials electronically.

Preferred Qualifications and Skills: Board members show attention to detail, are willing to devote time to reviewing materials thoroughly prior to meetings, and to engage in thoughtful discussion. The Board welcomes WSBA members and public members with a wide range of experiences and backgrounds. Claims for reimbursement may involve failure to provide services, and theft of client funds, in criminal, immigration, family law, and personal injury matters.

Reimbursement policy: This is an unpaid volunteer position. Reasonable travel expenses may be reimbursed according to the WSBA Expense Reimbursement Policy.

Selection and appointment process: Applications are reviewed by a team including the chair, staff liaison, and BOG liaison. Recommendations are made to the Board of Governors Nominations Committee, which makes the appointments.

For further information: See <https://www.wsba.org/Legal-Community/Committees-Boards-and-Other-Groups/client-protection-board>

How to apply: See instructions at www.wsba.org/joincommittee. Questions about the application? Email barleaders@wsba.org.

We are committed to promoting diversity, equity and inclusion on the Board and strongly encourage folks from a diverse array of backgrounds to apply. We define diversity broadly to include age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, geographical location, indigenous background, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, social class, and veteran status.