Boards That Work



Comparison of For-Profit and Nonprofit Boards

	For-Profit Boards	Nonprofit Boards
Organizations' ultimate goals	Make a profit for owners or shareholders. Fulfill its mission.	Provide services to clients or other beneficiaries. Fulfill its mission.
Typical board members	Corporation's executive(s), major shareholders, professionals and others from the private sector.	Volunteers with a variety of backgrounds and opinions and usually a strong interest in the organization's mission. Staff members may not serve on the board.
Compensation	Financial compensation including direct payment, shares and/or other remuneration such as options.	No financial compensation. Personal satisfaction of making a contribution to the organization. Opportunity to meet new people, learn new skills.
Interests Represented	Shareholders	Community at large, members, stakeholders including but not limited to: beneficiaries, government, donors, and collaborating organizations.

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