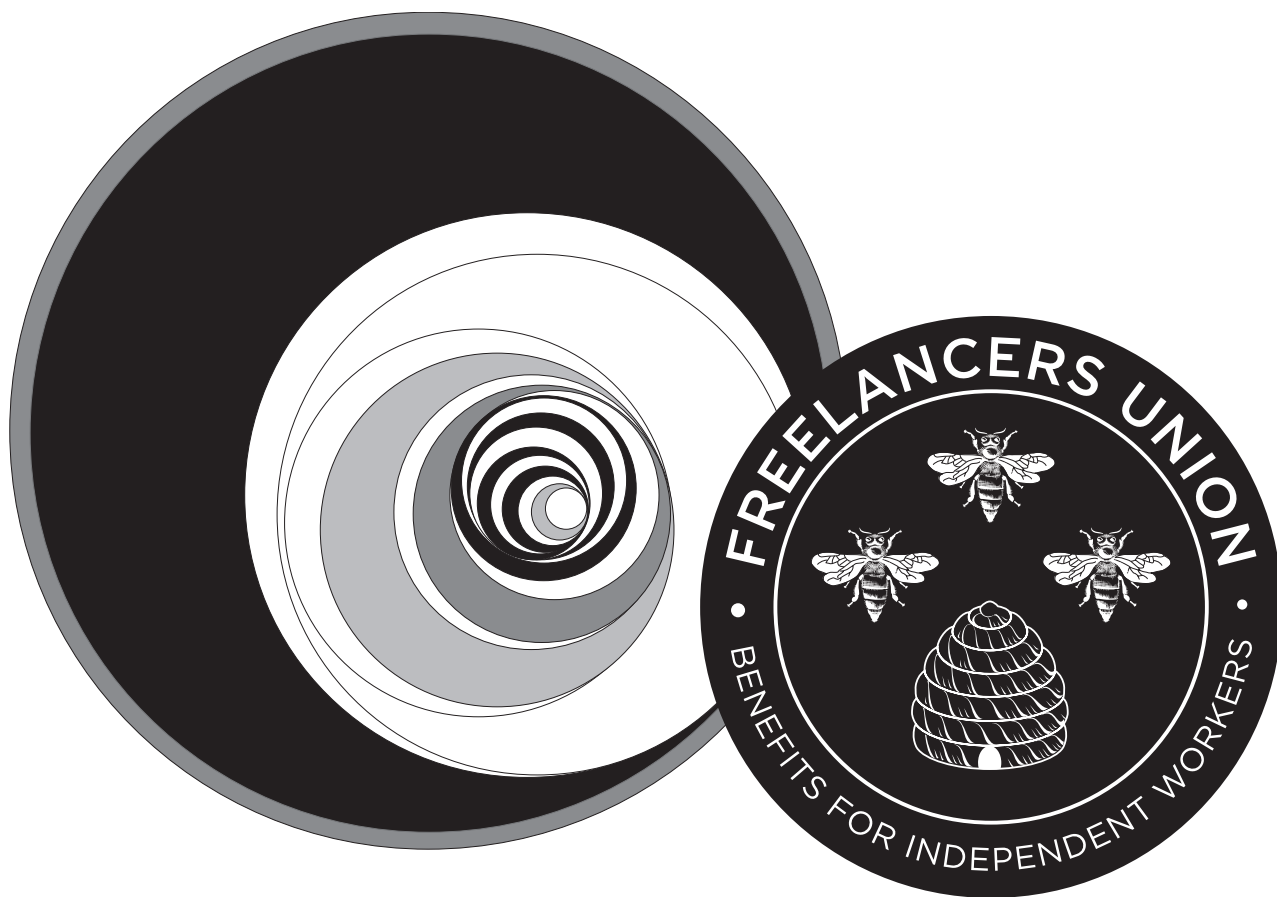


**APPLYING TO SERVE AS
MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE
ON FREELANCERS UNION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**





Dear Member,

Freelancers Union is a membership organization first and foremost, and you've been our partner in building this union from the beginning. Now our Board of Directors will reflect this partnership with a new dedicated position: a Member Representative elected by you, the members of Freelancers Union.

Serving on the Board along with me and diverse leaders from the public and private sectors is a chance for members to get involved in a new and important way. I thank you for your interest in playing a larger part in the work we do.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara".

Sara Horowitz
Executive Director

Role of elected Board member

The Freelancers Union Board of Directors plays an integral role in developing the organization's overarching strategy: forging the next social safety net by building the power of the Freelancers Union group in both markets and politics.

Every Board member is expected to serve for 2 years and attend 3 meetings per year, either in person or by phone. The elected member's first meeting will be the annual Freelancers Union Board Meeting on June 16th, 2009. The elected member may be asked to take the lead on special projects especially suited to their role and strengths, as determined by the Board.

Applying to serve on the Board

To be eligible, Freelancers Union members must:

- Work primarily as an independent worker (freelancer, independent contractor, sole proprietor, temporary employee, contingent worker or part-time worker)
- Be a Freelancers Union member for at least one year (recommended two years)
- Adhere to Freelancers Union Community Guidelines
- Demonstrate a commitment to building Freelancers Union in one or more of the following ways:
 - Volunteer in advocacy campaigns
 - Use a Freelancers Union service (health, dental, life, disability insurance, retirement, etc.)
 - Participate in Freelancers Union events and activities (such as surveys, events, focus groups, etc.)
 - Provide a service or product to other members (or offer a discount on services to other members)

To Apply, please submit your online application by April 3, 2009.

What Happens Next?

The Nomination Committee will review all eligible applications, and choose a set of vetted candidates to appear on the ballot for Member Representative to the Freelancers Union Board of Directors.

The Nomination Committee will be made up of 5-7 people, including a qualified Freelancers Union Member, a current Freelancers Union Board Member, the Freelancers Union Executive Director, a Freelancers Union staff member, and a representative from an allied organization. The Nomination Committee will review all qualified applications, and will interview up to ten finalists before making a final decision. The Nomination Committee may choose to verify finalists' independent-worker status at this time.

Once the Nomination Committee finalizes the ballot, all candidates will be notified and given space on the Freelancers Union website to introduce themselves to their fellow members.

The election will be held electronically, in May 2009. The elected Member Representative will attend the annual Freelancers Union Board Meeting on June 16th, 2009.

What is the Nomination Committee looking for?

The following are the guidelines for all current Board Members, and they will be used by the Nomination Committee in their vetting process. But it's not a checklist—we are looking for an individual who exhibits the potential to develop new skills and grow into this role over time.

GUIDELINES FOR FREELANCES UNION BOARD MEMBERS

Commitment to Freelancers Union and its members

- Commitment to promoting the interests of independent workers through information, advocacy and service

- Holistic view of the organization and its subsidiary entities, including Freelancers Insurance Company and Working Today
- Sophisticated understanding of the issues that face the independent workforce and the needs of current members
- Commitment to the long-term sustainability of the organization and the needs of future members, particularly when faced with difficult choices
- Ability to prioritize the best interests of the entire organization over a single issue or concern
- Commitment to devoting the necessary time and energy to be an effective board member and steward of Freelancers Union, both at and between required Board meetings

Willingness to embrace Freelancers Union strategy and culture

- Appreciation of Freelancers Union’s overarching strategy—to use the strength of the group to build power in both markets and politics, with the ultimate goal of forging the next social safety net for the independent workforce
- Enthusiasm for Freelancers Union’s entrepreneurial business model and culture of experimentation and innovation
- Ability to understand and follow notions of future trends and ideas
- Commitment to building new solutions, rather than tearing down that which already exists

Personal Traits, Experience, and Competencies

- Congenial attitude
- Ability to draw on practical wisdom gained through personal and professional experiences
- Ability to exercise objective, and impartial decisions for the benefit of Freelancers Union, evidenced by a consistent pattern of sound judgment and discretion, or civic and community leadership positions and activities
- Demonstrated ability to work well in teams (e.g. with members of the board, associates, and staff)
- Willingness to grow personally and professionally by, for example, taking on new assignments and obtaining broader exposure
- Intellectual curiosity

Other Considerations

- Freelancers Union seeks to build a Board of Directors that represents the geographic and occupational diversity of our membership, in addition to expertise about the range of our operations.

Who can vote?

To vote in the May election, you must have registered as a member on the Freelancers Union website prior to February 11, 2009.

How to vote

Voting will take place in May. All eligible members will receive an email with instructions for voting online.

This is a new process, and there’s a lot of detail here. Email us at community@freelancersunion.org if you have any questions. Thanks for taking an interest in your union and we hope you’ll consider applying to join the ballot.