Boards and Commissions
Leadership Institute
A Program of Nexus Community Partners

2027

BCLI Application Packet

Please read the entire Application Packet carefully.

All Application Packets are due Thursday, January 28, 2027 by midnight via:

1. **Email**: clee@nexuscp.org; OR
2. **Post-marked by Thursday, January 28, 2027 to**:
   a. ATTN: Chai Lee, Nexus Community Partners, 2125 E Hennepin Ave, Ste 200 Minneapolis, MN 55413

Each organization or BCLI alum may nominate one candidate each year.
(*See Page 4 for more information about this requirement*).

Checklist of Application Materials to Submit

Nominee is responsible for ensuring all the materials are sent to Nexus; See pages 4-6 for details.

✓ Completed by Nominee:

1. Applicant Cover Sheet.....*Complete & Included?* ____
2. Letter of Interest .....*Complete & Included?* ____
3. Resume .....*Complete & Included?* ____
4. Recommendation Letter .....*Complete & Included?* ____

For more information about the Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute, contact Mr. Chai Lee at clee@nexuscp.org. More information about Nexus can be found at www.nexuscp.org. Find us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn @nexuscp. This program has been adapted from the Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute originally created by Urban Habitat in Oakland, California.

BCLI Selection Process Timeline

The deadline for nominations is **Thursday, January 28th, 2027 by midnight (or post-marked by January 28th** , but we encourage you to submit your completed Nomination Packet as soon as possible. Selected nominees will be notified by early February for an interview and then interviewed by a selection committee consisting of BCLI staff, alumni, and community members. Interviews will be held in February and Nexus will determine and notify the final cohort by early March.

Information Sessions

We will be hosting two information sessions. Please join us to learn more about the program itself, nomination, and selection process for our 2027 BCLI cohort. You are welcome to contact BCLI staff with any questions you may have about the process, but are also **encouraged to attend one of the information sessions before nominating a candidate or applying to be a fellow**.

Info Sessions for Cohort 14

Monday Nov 2, 2026: 5:30-6:30 pm zoom info session

Thursday Jan 7, 2027: 5:30-6:30 pm in person info session (Rice Street Library in St. Paul, MN)

Monday Jan 11, 2027: 12pm-1pm zoom info session register Here

Thursday, Jan 21, 2027: 5:30-6:30 pm in person info session (Rice Street Library in St. Paul, MN)

Can't make it to an Information Session?

Please contact Chai Lee to get a video recording of the virtual session
Please RSVP for the information sessions to Chai Lee at clee@nexuscp.org.

BCLI Guidelines for Nominations

Applicant MUST:

- Be **personally focused on advancing equity** for people of color and underrepresented communities
- Be **18** years of age
- **Meet the residency requirements** of the board or commission you are interested in sitting on (i.e. live, work, or own business in the specified geographic area)
- **Commit to serving on a board or commission** for a full term after completion of the BCLI (those already sitting on a board or commission in their first term may also apply)
- **Commit to attend all MONTHLY TRAININGS AND ISSUE SERIES as follows**:

Program Dates

2027 BCLI Sessions (half will be in person, and half virtual)

Orientation	Thursday, March 18, 5:00 – 8:00pm (In person, locations TBD)
Welcome Dinner	Friday, April 16th, 6:00pm-8:00pm (in person)
Sat Session 1: Racial Equity Lens	Saturday, April 17th, 9:00am – 5:00pm (in person)
Sat Session 2: Econ. Development & Land Use	Saturday, May 15th, 9:00am – 4pm (virtual)
Sat Session 3: Workforce Development	Saturday, June 12th, 9:00am – 5pm (virtual)
Sat Session 4: Housing Equity	Saturday, July 17th, 9:00am – 4pm (in person)
Thursday Night Issue Series #1	Thursday, Aug 2nd, 6:00 – 7:00pm (virtual)
Sat Session 5: Transit Equity	Saturday, August 14th, 9:00am – 4pm (in person)
Thursday Night Issue Series #2	Thursday, September 2nd, 6:00 – 7:00pm (virtual)
Sat Session 6: Health Equity	Saturday, September 18th, 9:00am – 4pm (in person)
Graduation	Thursday, October 1st, 5:30pm – 7:00pm (in person)

Nomination Process and Steps

Each candidate should follow these steps in order to be considered for the 2027 BCLI Cohort:

1. **Locate a Nominator**. All BCLI fellows must be nominated by either a BCLI alumni, a community elder, a government agency or by a community organization with which the candidate is affiliated with as a participant, board member or advisor. This is to ensure shared accountability throughout the communities in which we are targeting seats and a diverse cohort of multiple networks. *If you do not know of an affiliated organization who can serve as your Nominator, contact BCLI staff to try to identify an organization in your interest area to serve as your Nominator.*

2. **Identify Your Target Seats**. Discuss with your Nominator which seat you would like to target based on your interest and experience. (*See Pages 7-10 for the full list of target seats for 2027).*

3. **Complete & Submit the Application Packet Materials. (***See pages 4-6).*



BCLI Application Packet: Materials to Submit

The applicant is responsible for submitting all components, including those completed by the nominator.

1. **Applicant Cover Sheet *(see page 5).*** This brief cover sheet is to be completed by the nominee and included with the rest of the nomination materials.

2. **A Letter of Interest from the Applicant**. This letter should indicate the nominee's short-term and long-term interests both in their identified seats and any additional racial or economic equity and career aspirations. The applicant should draw on previous experiences doing advocacy work (at a personal or community level) and navigating or understanding systems to demonstrate their ability to successfully serve on a board or commission. The applicant should also speak to how they will continue to remain accountable to the community throughout their work, especially as they become an appointed commissioner.

3. **The Applicant's most recent resume.** Please send us your most updated resume.
4. **A Letter of Recommendation from the person nominating the Applicant.**

Applicant Cover Sheet

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

See the **Guidelines for Nominations (pg. 4)** for instructions to submit a complete nomination packet.

Nominations are due no later than Thursday, January 28, 2027, by midnight.

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Telephone:

Email:

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1. **How did you hear about the BCLI?**

2. **Are you currently serving on a city, county, state or Metropolitan Council board or commission? If so, which one?**

3. **What is your current age?**

4. **What is your gender identity? (Please circle one)**

   a) Man
   b) Woman / Womyn
   c) Genderqueer / Queer
   d) Transgender
   e) _____ (*fill in the blank*)
   f) Prefer not to disclose

5. **What is your race or ethnicity? (Please circle one)**

   a) Black/African American
   b) Afro-Latino
   c) Afro-Caribbean
   d) African
   e) African Born
   f) Asian
   g) East Asian
   h) South Asian
   i) Southeast Asian

j) Arab/Middle Eastern
k) Hispanic/Latino(a)/Latinx
l) American Indian or Alaska Native
m) Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
n) Multiracial
o) White/European American
p) Other (***please specify***: _____)

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2027 BCLI Target Seats

See the **Guidelines for Nominations** (pg. 3) for instructions to submit a complete nomination packet.

Nominations are due no later than Thursday, January 28, 2027, by midnight.

2027 BCLI Target Seats

Tips on Targeting Seats:

1. *Browse the below list and descriptions and discuss with your Nominator/Nominee which 2-3 seats to target based on your experience and interest.*
2. *Individuals may target any of the seats on this list provided they meet residency and other commission requirements.*
3. *Any new commissioners currently serving their first term may also be nominated.*
4. *Please keep in mind that the information provided on this sheet is subject to (and likely to) change over the course of our recruiting period.*
5. *Vacancies on each target board or commission are subject to change and are not guaranteed throughout the recruiting period or program year.*
6. *If you already sit on a board not noted on this list, that is fine too. Please tell us in your application*
7. *Please contact Program Assistant Christine Lian if you have any questions: clian@nexuscp.org*

City of Brooklyn Center

- Charter Commission
- Financial Commission
- Housing Commission
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Planning Commission

City of Brooklyn Park

- Budget Advisory Committee
- Charter Commission
- Citizen Long-range Improvement Committee (CLIC)
- Human Rights Commission
- Planning Commission

- Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

City of Minneapolis

- Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee (CLIC)
- Charter Commission
- Citizen's Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC)
- Commission on Civil Rights
- Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council
- Housing Board of Appeals
- Minneapolis Arts Commission
- Minneapolis Workforce Development Board (MWDB)
- Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC)
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Planning Commission
- Public Health Advisory Committee
- Public Housing Authority Board
- Violence Prevention Steering Committee
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

City of Saint Paul

- Board of Water Commissioners
- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Business Review Council (BRC)
- Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) Committee
- Charter Commission
- Community Health Services Advisory Committee
- Cultural STAR Board
- Food and Nutrition Commission
- Human Rights & Equal Economic Opportunity Commission
- Neighborhood STAR Board
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Planning Commission
- Port Authority
- Public Housing Agency
- Transportation Committee
- Truth in Sale of Housing Board of Evaluators

City of Roseville

- Finance Commission
- Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission
- Parks and Recreation Commission

- Planning Commission
- Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission
- Variance Board

City of Woodbury

- Economic Development Commission (EDC)
- Parks and Natural Resources Commission
- Planning Commission

Hennepin County

- Capital Budgeting Task Force
- Hennepin County Workforce Investment Board (WIB)
- Human Resources (HR) Board
- Adult Mental Health Local Advisory Council
- Race Equity Advisory Council (REAC)

Ramsey County

- Capital Improvement Program Citizens Advisory Committee (CIPAC)
- Heading Home Ramsey (formerly Continuum of Care Governing Board)
- Human Services Citizens Advisory Council (CAC)
- Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission
- Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board (WIB)
- Ramsey County Ramsey County Food and Nutrition Commission

Metropolitan Council Committees

- Livable Communities Advisory Committee (LCAC)
- Land Use Advisory Committee (LUAC)
- Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC)
- Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC)
- Transportation Advisory Committee (TAB)
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State of Minnesota

- Advisory Task Force on Expanding Economic Security of Women
- American Indian Advisory Council
- Community Solutions Advisory Council
- Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage
- Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans
- Crime Victims Reparations Board
- Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council (CELC)

- Emerging Entrepreneurs Board
- Governor’s Advisory Council on Climate Change
- Governor's Community Council on Inclusion and Equity
- Governor's Workforce Development Council
- Health Equity Advisory and Leadership Council (HEAL)
- Housing Finance Agency
- Launch Minnesota
- Maternal and Child Health Advisory Task Force
- Maternal Mortality Review Committee
- Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs
- Minnesota State Board of Trustees
- State Advisory Council on Mental Health
- State Community Health Services Advisory Committee
- Task Force on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women