

Are You Board Ready?

WGOB E-Guides provide tips for your board journey, empowering you with the confidence and courage to lead and serve on corporate boards.

Getting yourself board-ready is a journey in which you need to be realistic about the skills, experience and value you bring to a board. Throughout the process, you should be mindful that it's a competitive marketplace. There is an over-supply of qualified corporate directors for a limited supply of available corporate board seats.

So, how do you get board-ready so you can compete for a corporate board seat? The first step is to ask yourself these ten questions, which will determine your readiness for leading and serving on a corporate board.

1. Do you have a minimum of 10 - 15 years of experience in a senior executive role in the public, private, crown or not-for-profit sectors?
2. Are you prepared to commit at least 200 to 300 hours per year to a corporate board role?
3. Do you have the support of your Board of Directors and senior executives to serve on a board? Refer to the [WGOB E-Guide on The Benefits of Serving on a Corporate Board](#) to learn how to build this support.
4. Do you have a formal governance certification or designation (C. Dir, ICD.D, CDI.D, GCB.D) from The Directors College, Institute of Corporate Directors, ACELLC or Competent Boards)?
5. Have you ever served on a board, either not-for-profit or for-profit?
6. Are you a team player who understands that board dynamics are one of the most critical components of good governance?
7. Do you fully understand a corporate director's role, responsibility and liability?
8. Do you understand the difference between a board of directors' role versus a management role?
9. Do you have financial acumen—meaning that you read and understand financial statements?
10. Do you have experience in critical areas of our changing world such as risk management, international markets, M&A, cyber security, digital media, AI, data governance, ESG and sustainability?