



2026 REGIONAL BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FAQs

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APPLYING

1. How do I apply to serve on a regional board/committee?

You can apply by filling out the application form, which will be emailed to all SCA members, and will be posted on the SCA website [HERE](#). You may apply to up to three committees in a single form. If you have questions or challenges filling out the form, you can contact our Chief Operating Officer Leah Willoughby at leah@soundcities.org.

2. What is the timeline for applications?

A call for nominations will be sent in mid-September. The application deadline will be close of business on Friday, November 7. Late applications will not be accepted. The PIC is anticipated to receive and consider the Nominating Committee's recommendations at its meeting on December 10. The Board is expected to make final appointments at its December 17 meeting.

3. How will I be notified about the status of my application?

You will receive an automatic confirmation email after successfully submitting your application. The email will contain the subject line, "We have received your response for 2026 SCA Regional Boards and Committees Application."

Policy Staff will keep applicants informed as the appointment process progresses, and will provide updates at appropriate points along the way. Once final appointments have been made by the SCA Board of Directors, Policy Staff will reach out to applicants directly to notify them of the outcome.

4. What should I include in my application?

You may include a brief statement of why you wish to serve on the committee and a brief summary of your background, experience, and subject matter knowledge relevant to the committee's work. This may be typed directly into the application form; copy/pasted into the form; or uploaded as a Word or PDF document. The form will accept up to three uploaded documents.

5. How many committees can I apply to serve on?

There is no limit to the number of committees that you can apply for. However, we ask that you rank the committees in order of your interest when you submit your applications. You are encouraged to apply to more than one committee in case there are no vacancies on your first choice committee.

6. How do I decide which committees to serve on?

We encourage you to take the time to review the [2026 Regional Boards and Committees Descriptions](#). This document gives details on the subject matter of each regional board and committee. It also tells you when and where the committee meets, so you can ensure that the committee will work with your schedule. You can then

determine which committee(s) best match up with your city's priorities, and your interests. You are welcome (and encouraged) to watch a meeting of the committee before applying to serve. You are also encouraged to contact SCA Policy Staff with questions.

SELECTION PROCESS

7. Who decides who gets appointed to regional boards and committees?

The final appointments to regional boards and committees are made by the SCA Board of Directors. The process is as follows:

- Each October, the PIC Chair appoints a PIC Nominating Committee, made up of one Public Issues Committee (PIC) representative from each SCA caucus (North, Snoqualmie Valley, South, and South Valley).
- Following the close of the application period, the PIC Nominating Committee makes initial recommendations to the PIC.
- The PIC considers these recommendations and makes recommendations to the SCA Board.
- The SCA Board makes final appointments of members and alternates to regional boards and committees. For 2026 appointments, that decision is anticipated for the December 17 Board meeting.

8. What criteria does the PIC Nominating Committee use in deciding who to appoint to regional boards and committees?

SCA Board Policies state that the PIC Nominating Committee shall look at the following factors:

- geographic distribution
- equitable representation
- size of city distribution
- form of governance distribution
- ability to serve, interest in serving, past participation
- knowledge of the subject matter
- preference shall be given to current SCA members (i.e., elected officials in SCA member cities)

9. How do I get experience serving on a committee?

You can get experience by serving as a member or alternate on other boards and committees. New members are encouraged to volunteer to serve. By serving on a committee, even if it is not your first choice, you gain experience that is strongly considered by the Nominating Committee. Attending PIC is another great way to gain experience.

ELIGIBILITY & GUIDELINES

10. Do I apply as an individual, or does my city need to approve my application?

SCA does not require a specific process. How applications are handled is at the discretion of each city. In some cities, the mayor submits all applications on behalf of the city. In others, the city

council votes or confers informally on the applications before they are submitted. In some cases, each individual councilmember simply applies for the committees that they are interested in.

11. Can more than one person from a city serve on the same committee at the same time?

No. Only one member from each city may serve on a specific committee at any given time. In accordance with Board Policies, only one individual from each city may apply to any one committee.

12. What happens if more than one person from my city wants to serve on a particular committee?

In this case, you and your city must determine which individual will be designated as the applicant. The method for selecting is at the discretion of each city.

If the city does not designate a single applicant, SCA will not select between multiple applicants from the same city. The end result will be no appointment being made for that city on that committee.

13. Are all committees open to all SCA members?

There are some committees in which not all cities participate. These situations are rare, but if you are unsure, you may check with SCA staff regarding any special eligibility requirements.

In addition, on some committees, some cities have their own individual seats. For example, several larger cities have their own seats on the PSRC Executive Board. On that committee, SCA has appointing authority for remaining cities, and only those cities without individual seats are eligible to apply for the SCA-appointed seats.

14. Do I have to reapply if I am currently serving on a committee?

Yes – in nearly all cases, you must reapply each year if you wish to continue serving on a committee. Nearly all regional boards and committees have one-year terms, and reapplication is required annually.

Per SCA Board policies, appointments may be continued from year to year, upon recommendation of the Public Issues Committee and approval of the Board of Directors, based on:

- past participation and continued interest in serving,
- successful representation of membership interests in past efforts,
- information from the caucus chair, if any,
- comparative need for organizational continuity.

A few committees have multi-year terms established by the external entity. If you are in the middle of a multi-year term, you do not need to reapply. Check with the [SCA Policy Staff member](#) assigned to your committee if you are not sure when your term expires. (And if in doubt, submit an application!)

Finally, note that there is a six-year term limit for SCA appointments to regional boards and committees. This limitation does not apply to alternates. The SCA bylaws provide that, in extraordinary circumstances, the Board may make exceptions to the six-year term limit upon the recommendation of the PIC nominating committee and the PIC when a supermajority (2/3) of Board members present and voting at a meeting finds that doing so would be in the best interests of SCA and its member cities.

15. Can newly elected officials be appointed to regional boards and committees?

Nothing in the SCA Bylaws or Board Policies precludes newly elected officials from being appointed to regional boards and committees. As a practical matter, it may be challenging for a newly elected official to get up to speed on the issues on a regional board or committee at the same time as they are learning the ropes as a new councilmember or mayor, and a newly elected official may not have the same knowledge of subject matter and level of past participation that the PIC Nominating Committee may consider when making appointment recommendations.

SERVING ON A COMMITTEE AND EXPECTATIONS

16. Do I need to serve as an alternate before I become a member?

No, but in many cases, individuals are appointed as alternates before becoming a full member of the committee. Alternates are generally given priority when an opening for a member occurs.

17. What is the role of an alternate on a regional board or committee?

In most cases, SCA alternates participate fully at the table or dais (in person or virtually) and engage in debate and discussion just like members do. The only difference is that alternates only vote if a member is absent.

Importantly, SCA alternates are expected to attend every meeting and every caucus meeting, without exception, just as if they were a full member. Consistent participation ensures continuity and readiness to step in whenever needed.

18. What responsibilities do I have as an SCA appointee to regional boards and committees?

As noted above, all SCA appointees (including members and alternates) are expected to attend all committee meetings and all caucus meetings. SCA appointees are expected to read materials and come to meetings prepared. They are asked to maintain good communication with SCA staff, and to attend the annual SCA orientation for regional board and committee appointees, which will be held in early 2026. Appointees are also encouraged to attend PIC meetings when the PIC will be discussing issues that are coming before the committee or board on which you serve.

19. What is a “caucus meeting?”

Prior to committee meetings, SCA appointees (both members and alternates) typically meet as a group to discuss the issues that will be on the committee agenda. This is an opportunity to share ideas with your fellow SCA appointees, to hear background information from staff, and to be well-prepared when you go out on the dais. These caucus meetings are a very important part of serving as an SCA appointee on a regional board or committee.

20. Who am I representing on a regional board or committee? Myself? My city? SCA?

You are being appointed to serve on behalf of SCA, and all 38 cities that we represent. For that reason, you are expected to try to represent the interests of all SCA cities, not just your own city, or your own personal views. When you are coming to the table representing 38 cities and more than a million people, your voice carries more weight!

Pursuant to SCA Board Policy 701, “A member representing SCA is expected to reflect policy which has been developed by SCA when sitting as a member of any regional committee, board or task force.” SCA representatives serving on regional boards and committees shall endeavor to avoid taking positions that are harmful to any SCA member cities. SCA appointees shall follow the following protocols when serving on regional boards and committees:

- 1) When the PIC & Board adopt a public policy position, it shall be binding on SCA representatives serving on regional boards and committees;
- 2) In the absence of such a position, the SCA caucus of a given board or committee shall attempt to develop a caucus position that represents the consensus of the caucus, based (where applicable) on existing SCA policy positions;
- 3) Where no policy position has been adopted by the PIC and Board, and the caucus is unable to reach a consensus position, individual members shall be free to vote their conscience, with the caveat that no SCA representative to a regional board or committee shall vote in a manner that is at odds with an adopted SCA policy position.

2026 VACANCIES

21. Which committees will have vacancies for 2026?

Below is a list of expected vacancies we know of as of the date indicated. It is important to note that there may be additional vacancies to those listed – **we will not know of all vacancies until we receive applications**. To assist in providing the most accurate list, 2025 committee members and alternates are asked to please communicate to SCA Policy Staff their intention to re-apply – or not re-apply – to continue serving on their respective committee(s) for 2026.

Expected Vacancies as of October 22, 2025

Board or Committee Name	Expected Vacancies
Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services (ADS Advisory Council)	2 M
Affordable Housing Committee	3 M / 1 A
Board of Health (BOH)	2 M
Children & Youth Advisory Board (CYAB)	1 M
Domestic Violence Initiative (DVI) Regional Task Force	2 A
Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC)	2 M / 2 A
Greater Seattle Partners (GSP)	1 M
Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)	2 M / 1 A
Healthier Here Governing Board	1 A
Joint Recommendation Committee (JRC)	2 M / 2 A
King Conservation District (KCD) Advisory Committee	2 M / 1 A
King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee (KCFCDAC)	3 M / 2 A
King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA)	1 M
Local Hazardous Waste Management Program (LHWMP) MCC	1 A
Mental Illness & Drug Dependency Advisory Committee (MIDD)	1 M / 1 A
PSRC Executive Board	1 M / 2 A
PSRC Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB)	1 M / 1 A
PSRC Operations Committee ¹	1 M
PSRC Transportation Policy Board (TPB)	2 M / 1 A
Regional Policy Committee (RPC)	4 M / 1 A
Regional Transit Committee (RTC)	2 M / 2 A
Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)	1 A