

NATIONWIDE BOARD POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING BOARD COMPOSITION AND SELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Board's goal, as described in the Governance Guidelines adopted on October 4, 2006, is to be a strategic asset to Nationwide. To accomplish this goal, the Board must consist of Directors who have, collectively, the range of experience, expertise and relationships needed for oversight of Nationwide's businesses, as they change over time, and who are faithful to Nationwide's heritage.

Candidates to fill Board vacancies should be selected to complement the existing range of experience, expertise and relationships on the Board, which has served Nationwide well for many years. The goal is that the Board as a whole – new members combined with continuing members – will have the skills and background needed to help the Company deal with the challenges it faces now and in the future. The Board's composition must also reflect the historical roots that laid the foundation for Nationwide's on-going success, as well as relationships with sponsoring organizations that are important to Nationwide's existing businesses.

Every candidate for a vacancy, in addition to his/her other qualifications, must share the fundamental values on which Nationwide is built; must be dedicated to the long-term interests of Nationwide, and the policyholders and other stakeholders it serves; must have the time needed to carry out all the duties of a director of Nationwide; and must have the personal skills to be a contributing and productive member of the Board.

The Governance Committee has the responsibility for recommending a candidate to fill a Board vacancy, but the ultimate decision on the nomination of a candidate is solely that of the Board as a whole. Because of the importance of the Board to Nationwide's success, the process by which the Governance Committee decides on its recommendations is of the utmost importance. The Governance Committee has the following responsibilities as part of this process:

- The Governance Committee should assess the experience, expertise and business relationships represented by the continuing Board members, in light of the existing and planned businesses of Nationwide, to determine the skills and background the new Board member should have to complement those of the continuing Board members.
- The Governance Committee should actively seek suggestions for possible nominees from interested outside groups, from other Board members, from senior management, and should consider using executive search firms to assist it in finding candidates with the skills and backgrounds needed. Because the Board itself has the responsibility to nominate candidates for vacancies, outside groups will be asked for suggestions, but will not be asked to make nominations.

- The Governance Committee should carefully review the resumes of the candidates, and seek personal references before recommending a candidate.
- The Governance Committee should interview any person it proposes to the Board as a nominee for a vacancy, and should arrange for the CEO to interview the prospective candidate as well.
- The Governance Committee should make its recommendation to the Board in writing, describing the experience, expertise and background of the proposed nominee, and the ways in which he/she will complement the skills and backgrounds represented by the continuing members of the Board.

In light of the importance of the decision, ample time should be allowed for the Board to consider the Governance Committee's recommendation. The CEO should play an active role in the selection process, but it is the responsibility of the Board, not any individual director or any committee, to make these important decisions.

To help make new Board members as productive as possible quickly, the Governance Committee should instruct management to prepare an orientation program for new Board members, and should periodically review the program to assure its quality and scope.

Approved by the Board on October 4, 2006