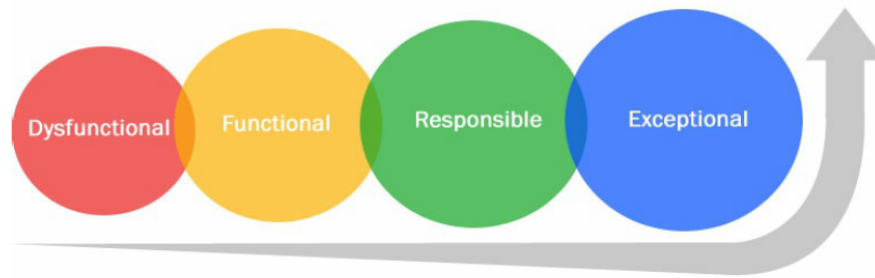


Board Performance Continuum



Taking Actions

Exceptional boards are a strategic asset to be leveraged by the organization. They add significant value and make a discernible difference in the organization's advancement of mission. Use this report as a tool to guide your board on the path to exceptional performance.

Take action. The board self-assessment establishes a platform for setting board priorities. The final step is identifying areas for growth. To help your board do this, consider the following questions:

1. What stands out? Is there anything in the report that is especially surprising, or that you'd like to understand better through conversations as a full board?
2. Does the board seem to be well aligned in terms of its assessment of its performance, or are there indications that different board members are experiencing the board's leadership performance differently? If the latter, why might that be?
3. To what extent is your board meeting its own expectations? In what ways is the board happy with its leadership performance, and where is it signaling a desire to improve? Do any natural priorities emerge from the ratings?
4. Based on what you see in the self-assessment, what are the top one to three areas where you think the board should focus its board development efforts?

Develop a board action plan. Once the board has agreed on its priorities, use a board action plan to help the board develop a clear approach to achieving its goals and staying accountable.

1. What steps can we take to ensure that information from the evaluation is used to improve the performance of the board?
2. Who or what committee is responsible for initiating and leading board development and assessment? Does it have the necessary resources and authority to fulfill its responsibilities?
3. Every board should have clearly established guidelines that outline the duties and responsibilities of individual board members. Are our board members held accountable to these standards? Do we have a process for removing nonperforming board members?

Check your progress. Only the board can hold itself accountable for its own performance. Periodically revisit the results from the self-assessment and action plan, celebrate the successes, and recommit to those areas that need further attention.

Repeat. BoardSource recommends conducting a thorough board self-assessment every two to three years and using the intervening time to work on the action plan you develop.

Deeper Support

Looking to go deeper? Consider investing in the Board Support Program, or reaching out to a consultant from our network.

Board Support Program

BoardSource's [Board Support Program](#) provides year-round governance guidance, resources, and leadership development to you, your board, and your organization.

Key benefits include:

- Complimentary Assessment Product
- Access to the [BoardSource Exchange](#)
- On-demand [Certificate of Nonprofit Board Education](#)
- Ask-an-Expert Email Service
- Members-Only Downloadable & Written Resources

Consultant Directory

BoardSource knows that – many times – there is no replacement for direct support and guidance from a [knowledgeable board consultant](#). That's why BoardSource has built relationships with a broad network of consultants from across the country who bring a wide range of strengths and experiences working with nonprofit boards.

New to selecting a consultant, or need a little help getting started? Check out this resource page:

[Choosing a Consultant FAQ](#)

Contact Us

Assessments Questions: assessments@boardsource.org
Membership or General Inquiries: members@boardsource.org

About BoardSource

About Us

BoardSource envisions a future where the nonprofit community has the leadership to fulfill its purpose and create a just world where all can thrive. Our mission is to inspire and support nonprofit boards and executives to lead justly and with purpose.

Established in 1988, BoardSource's work is grounded in the fundamental belief that boards are critical to organizational success. With decades of hands-on experience working with and supporting nonprofit boards, BoardSource is a go-to resource for nonprofit board and executive leaders. BoardSource supports a broad and diverse cross-section of social sector organizations with

- leadership initiatives addressing key opportunities and issues within the nonprofit sector
- research and benchmarking of board composition, practices, and performance
- membership and board support programs
- performance assessment tools
- a comprehensive library of topic papers, publications, and downloadable infographics, tools, templates and more
- live and virtual education and training

A note to our global readers

The need for effective board leadership and governance knows no geographic boundaries, and BoardSource is committed to strong social sector board leadership and governance around the globe. While BoardSource uses United States laws and policies as the legal framework for our resources and recommendations, most of our resources do not focus on legal matters but rather on good governance practices, making them relevant to organizations working outside of the United States. We do suggest, however, that you refer to applicable laws in your country regarding financial reporting and other legal and transparency issues.

BoardSource is a 501(c)(3) organization.

For more information, please visit our website at www.boardsource.org, e-mail us at mail@boardsource.org, or call us at 800-883-6262.