

Board Governance Policy DEVI Sansthan, Lucknow

1. Purpose

The Board Governance Policy outlines the roles, responsibilities, and operational guidelines for the Governing Board of DEVI Sansthan, a society registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860. The policy ensures effective governance, transparency, accountability, and strategic oversight in alignment with the organization's mission and objectives.

2. Structure of the Governing Board

- DEVI Sansthan is governed by a **Governing Board** responsible for policy making, financial oversight, and strategic decision-making.
- The Board consists of a **Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and other members** as per the society's bylaws.
- The tenure of Board members is determined by the society's rules and may include provisions for reappointment or term limits.
- The Board may establish subcommittees for specific functions, such as finance, programs, and governance.

3. Roles and Responsibilities of the Governing Board

The Governing Board is responsible for:

- **Strategic Direction:** Setting the mission, vision, and long-term strategic goals.
- **Policy Formulation:** Establishing policies for governance, operations, finance, and programs.
- **Financial Oversight:** Approving budgets, monitoring financial health, and ensuring regulatory compliance.
- **Executive Oversight:** Appointing and evaluating the Executive Director/Chief Functionary.
- **Fundraising and Resource Mobilization:** Supporting efforts to secure funding and partnerships.



- **Legal and Ethical Compliance:** Ensuring adherence to laws, regulations, and ethical standards.
- **Risk Management:** Identifying and mitigating risks affecting the organization.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Representing DEVI Sansthan to donors, government bodies, and the community.

4. Board Member Responsibilities

- **Attendance and Participation:** Members must actively participate in Board meetings and decision-making.
- **Fiduciary Duty:** Act in the best interest of DEVI Sansthan, avoiding conflicts of interest.
- **Confidentiality:** Maintain confidentiality of sensitive organizational matters.
- **Advocacy:** Promote the organization's mission and engage in outreach efforts.

5. Board Meetings & Decision-Making

- The Board shall meet at least **four times a year** or as required.
- A **quorum** (minimum number of members required for a valid meeting) shall be as per the society's bylaws.
- Decisions shall be made through **majority voting**, with the Chairperson having the casting vote in case of a tie.
- Minutes of meetings shall be recorded and maintained for transparency.

6. Conflict of Interest Policy

- Board members must disclose any conflicts of interest related to financial transactions, contracts, or personal affiliations.
- Members shall recuse themselves from discussions or decisions where a conflict exists.
- A **Conflict of Interest Register** shall be maintained and reviewed periodically.



7. Board Member Appointment & Removal

- New Board members are appointed based on expertise, commitment, and alignment with the organization's mission.
- A **Nomination Committee** may recommend candidates for Board positions.
- A Board member may be removed for misconduct, non-participation, or breach of governance policies as per the bylaws.

8. Board Evaluation & Development

- The Board shall conduct an **annual self-evaluation** to assess performance and identify areas for improvement.
- Training and capacity-building sessions shall be organized to enhance governance effectiveness.

9. Compliance and Amendments

- The Board Governance Policy must align with the **Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860** and other applicable laws.
- Amendments to this policy must be approved by a majority vote of the Board.
- This policy shall be reviewed every **two years** or as needed to maintain effectiveness.

Approved by: Governing Board of DEVI Sansthan



Nixon Joseph
Group Director
DEVI Sansthan

