

Checklist for Building The Right Size Board

Mission

- Does the board size allow the organization to fulfill its mission?
- Is every board member committed to the mission?

Leadership

- Are the board committees designed to support the organization's strategic priorities?
- Is there an adequate pipeline to fulfill all of the leadership positions on the board?
- Are committees and task forces fully functioning with enough board members to govern effectively and engage all board members?
- Is the board at a size where the Board Chair and CEO can have a meaningful, personal conversation with each member annually?

Culture

- Does the board have enough diversity among its membership to allow for different perspectives and constructive debates?
- Are all board members actively engaged and contributing their expertise and knowledge at meetings or other board activities?
- Does the board size allow for each board member to get to know all of the other board members?

Accountability

- Do board members feel like they are being asked to do too much? Are key responsibilities being neglected?
- Is the board large enough to fulfill its roles and responsibilities for oversight?
- Does each board member understand their individual commitment and role on the board?