



Board of Directors

2025 Application Form

Thank you for your interest in serving on Autism Society Acadiana's

Board of Directors

1. Carefully read the entire application. Please pay close attention to the background, mission, and expectations that are listed.
2. Please return your completed application to Autism Society Acadiana by:
Email: applications@acadianautism.org

To be considered, we must have your application in hand no later than

September 30, 2025 at 11:59 pm (central).

Only completed applications will be considered. Applicants will be interviewed by the current Board of Directors. Interviews will take place **by appointment**.

If selected, you will have a **mandatory** orientation on **Sunday Oct. 19, 2025 from 2:00pm-4:00pm**

Your first board meeting will be

Saturday October 25, 2025 at 10:00 am

<i>Applicant Name</i>	
<i>Physical Address</i>	
<i>City</i>	
<i>State</i>	
<i>Zip Code</i>	
<i>Phone Number</i>	
<i>Email Address</i>	
<i>Date Submitted</i>	

Employment Experience:

List in chronological order beginning with your current or most recent position. Please spell out complete names. Please do not use abbreviations or acronyms.

Position or Title	
Organizations Name	
Start Date	
End Date	

Position or Title	
Organizations Name	
Start Date	
End Date	

Position or Title	
Organizations Name	
Start Date	
End Date	

Volunteer Experience:

Please list your most recent volunteer experiences, including those with organizations other than Autism Society Acadiana. Please use the complete name of the organization rather than an abbreviation or an acronym.

Position or Title	
Organizations Name	
Start Date	
End Date	

Position or Title	
Organizations Name	
Start Date	
End Date	

Position or Title	
Organizations Name	
Start Date	
End Date	

Educational Background:

Please list your highest level of education beginning with the most recent.

Institution Name	
Degree/Field	
Start Date	
End Date	

Institution Name	
Degree/Field	
Start Date	
End Date	

Significant Honors, Awards, Special Recognitions:

Please use complete names rather than abbreviations or acronyms.

Organization	
Honor/Award	
Year Awarded	

Organization	
Honor/Award	
Year Awarded	

Applicant Self-Evaluation:

Please answer the following questions to show how your training and experiences would benefit **Autism Society Acadiana** as a member of our **Board of Directors**.

Yes

No

1. Are you a member of the Autism Society?
2. Are you familiar with autism?
3. If so, how did you gain your knowledge about autism?

4. How would Autism Society Acadiana's Board of Directors benefit from your participation as a board member? Please include detailed information about the following:

a. Governance Skills

b. Fundraising Experience

c. Teamwork Skills

d. Leadership Skills

e. Experience in reaching out to diverse populations.

Finally, What other non-profit boards have you served on or currently have a position on?

About Autism Society Acadiana

The Acadiana Chapter is a regional affiliate of the National Autism Society (www.autism-society.org) serving over 1500 households and members within the parishes of Lafayette, Acadiana, Evangeline, St. Landry, Iberia, St. Martin, and Vermilion.

Autism Society Acadiana along with dedicated staff, professionals, and a national network of affiliates and volunteers, work hard every day to carry out the organization's mission. Each person is filled with passion, empathy, drive, and determination to build an inclusive society and create more opportunities for Autistic individuals to live a connected, quality life. Our chapter is proud to work with Autistic individuals across our governance board and community to create connections to resources, advocacy, and to each other.

In 1985, a small group of parents of Autistic children, health care professionals and teachers founded an organization to provide support, guidance and other resources to local Autistic individuals and their families. That organization is now referred to as Autism Society Acadiana. Our focus is on support, education, community, advocacy, and information and referrals.

Mission: Our mission is to create connections, empowering everyone in the Autism community with the resources needed to live fully.

Options Policy: We firmly believe that no single type of program or service will fill the needs of every individual with autism and that each person should have access to support services. Selection of a program, service or method of treatment should be on the basis of a full assessment of each person's abilities, needs and interests.

Services: Everyone deserves to live fully. At the core of Autism Society Acadiana's work, is our goal to influence meaningful change in support of the Autism community.

Support We Offer

- Monthly AI Generated Podcast: Gumbo for Growth
- Autism Trainings upon request
- Youtube Channel
- Calendar of Webinars from various agencies for easy access and viewing
- Participation in Community Resource Fairs
- First Responder Training
- Opportunity Now Job Fair in Partnership with LEDA
- Quarterly Resource Forums
- Family Stipends
- Just 4 Moms Support Group in Partnership with Down Syndrome Association of Acadiana & DREAMS Foundation
- S.T.A.R.S. (Siblings Talking About Real Stuff)
- Teacher Mini Grants
 - Non-Affiliated Support Group Supported by Acadiana Autism Society
 - M.A.T. (Managing Asperger's Together)

Current Programming

- Water Safety Training in Partnership with Destiny Swim International
- Adult/Teen Cooking Classes in Partnership with Greedy's2Go & Vermillionville
- Functional Life Skills Classes in Partnership with UL Students for Autism Society Club
- Inclusive Garden Project in Partnership with Children's Museum
- Light it Up Acadiana
- Congressional App Challenge in Partnership with CGI

Member Givebacks

- Annual Swim Party in partnership with Riverside Swim Club and COLA
- Member's Picnic
- Christmas Celebration
- Ice Cream Social in Partnership with New York Life
- Trunk-R-Treat

Fundraising Events:

- Walk on the Wild Side for Autism in Partnership with Zoosiana
- Egg Your Yard
- 50/50 Raffle
- Walmart Round Up
- Little Caesars Superbowl Pizza Fundraiser
- April 30 Days of GiveBacks
- Jockey Lot Charity Garage Sale (Bi-Annual)

Everyone's story is different.

The experience of Autism is not one thing. It is many things. It's dreams, talents, relationships, victories, hurdles, and everything in between.

The connection between those experiences is you.--- Autism Society Nationals



Appendix A

Board of Directors

Performance expectations of you, the individual as a potential board member

All Board members agree to meet the same set of expectations. These are clearly explained during recruitment. A candidate is only nominated or appointed after agreeing to these expectations. By accepting the role, the person confirms that serving on the Board is one of their top priorities for volunteering and giving.

Term of Office

Each officer/director may serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive two (2) year terms. Limitations: An individual may serve as both, a director and officer, but shall not exceed six (6) consecutive years total.

Specific performance expectations are:

1. Believe in and be an active advocate and ambassador for the values, mission and vision of the organization.
2. Participation in group processes, e.g., meeting preparation and performance
 - **All Board Members must attend at minimum 2 of 4 Quarterly Board Meetings. Prepare for these meetings by reviewing materials and bringing materials to meetings.**
 - **All Board Members must maintain an “active status”. Active status consists of attending/participating in at least 6 ASA sponsored events/activities in a 12-month period. This does not include the board meetings nor the Walk on the Wild Side Fundraiser and the Egg Your Yard Fundraiser.**
 - Act in a way that contributes to the effective operation of the Board – work with fellow Board members and staff to assure that the Board and its committees function as smoothly and purposefully.
 - Focus on the good of the organization, independent of personal agenda, self-interest, or influence of others.
 - Support the organization's policies and procedures for conducting business.
 - Maintain confidentiality of all work unless authorized otherwise.
 - Support Board decisions once these are made.
 - Help build a good culture.
 - Use conversation as a core business practice, asking strategic questions and participating in dialogue.
 - Be available to serve on committees (at least 5). This may include working with staff to write a grant for your event.
 - Inform the Board of Directors of any potential conflicts of interest, whether real or perceived, and abide by the decision of the Board related to the situation.
 - Respect the authority of the Board President and positions of the staff; and, adhere to the limitations of the Board, its committees and individual Board members.
3. Personal development
 - Keep informed about the organization, its issues, and its connection to the community through active participation within the organization and outreach outside the organization.
 - Participate in professional development opportunities to strengthen board governance and advance the organization's effectiveness through learning. Participate in appraisal of own performance and others, as called upon.

4. Individual leadership acts outside board and committee meetings
- Promote a culture of philanthropy.
 - **Board Members must participate in and/or support ALL fundraising efforts given by our organization.** Specifically:
 - Contribute to the best of your personal ability. If the organization launches a special campaign try your hardest to make it a success.
 - Participate in fundraising by taking on various tasks tailored to your comfort and skills.
 - As appropriate, use personal and professional contacts and expertise to benefit the organization, without compromising ethics or trespassing on relationships.

I have read and taken into account the commitment required to execute the listed expectations.

Applicants Printed Name: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____

Please email this and an attached resume to

applications@acadianaautism.org

Subject: Board Application

