

# AGB Consulting Services for Foundation Boards

A strong governing board is essential to your foundation's ability to promote the success of its institution. With guidance from AGB Consulting, boards can focus on the fundamentals of effective governance—ensuring clear roles, strategic alignment, and accountability—while helping leaders develop sustainable strategies and innovative solutions that advance the institution's mission.

## Build Your Strategic Foundation Board

Boards often wait until it is too late to consider meaningful transformative action. What's the best path to transition from "business as usual" to becoming truly "strategic"? Every year, AGB works with hundreds of our member foundations and institutions to build more diverse and strategic boards with innovative engagements tailored to your board's situation, including projects to help you:

- » **Identify philanthropy and fundraising approaches** that lay out the strategies, resources, and leadership needed for your foundation to adapt to a new environment for operating and fundraising.
- » **Recommend the appropriate governance structure for investment and endowment management** and review investment-related policies.
- » **Gain insights on leading practices, policies, and characteristics of strategic foundation boards** through a facilitated board workshop or retreat to align new board members and provide ongoing board education.
- » **Support your strategic planning and transformation journey** while enhancing the partnership of your foundation and host institution.
- » **Conduct board and CEO assessments** that improve self-reflection, provide a foundation for improvement, strengthen relationships, build trust, and enhance diversity and effectiveness.
- » **Build the capacity of and partnership between the board chair and CEO**—the bedrock of a strategic foundation board—with professional development and coaching programs.
- » **Work with your institution to develop or update your memorandum of understanding (MOU)** reflecting a shared vision of the institution-foundation partnership and supporting effective alignment and collaboration.

It's easy to get started. AGB members receive a one-hour governance consultation, which allows your CEO or board chair to consult with an AGB expert for general advice on achieving foundation board goals or navigating difficult governance situations. Topics often include board processes, committee structure, fiduciary duties, foundation-institution relationships, and more.

### THE AGB DIFFERENCE

The AGB Consulting team is led by thought partners who possess deep understanding rooted in their experience as college, university, system, and foundation board and committee chairs, board members, chief executives, or senior level executives as well as specialists in critical areas for board oversight.

AGB's sole focus as a member-driven nonprofit is supporting higher education boards, leaders, and institutions. Our success is measured by our members' positive outcomes.

“**AGB took us way beyond the typical 'check the box' exercises and provided thoughtful and actionable recommendations.**”

—University of Toledo Foundation

“**We needed another voice and another set of eyes for our long-range plan, and knew the AGB consultant would “fit” into Missouri State based on his experience and leadership in our first retreat. We are now on a good path toward accomplishing our five-year goals.**”

—Missouri State University Foundation



**Learn more about AGB consulting services.**  
**AGB.org/Consulting**

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