



Board of Health Nominations

Boards of health in Kentucky play an important role in the Kentucky Public Health system including establishing local public health tax rate, hiring the local public health director, and collaborating with the local public health director in the strategic oversight of the local health department. Volunteer board of health members are integral to promoting healthier Kentuckians and healthier communities.

On behalf of the Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) appoints members to 118 of the 120 county or city-county boards of health (BOH) pursuant to KRS 212.020 and KRS 212.640. Fayette and Jefferson County board members are appointed by the mayor and fiscal court respectively. The composition of a district BOH is defined in KRS 212.855.

Board of Health appointment terms are for two years beginning January 1 and ending December 31 the following calendar year. There is no restriction on the number of terms an individual may serve, but each member's term has an end date, and they must be renominated and reappointed for a new term every two years. If a current BOH member fails to be re-nominated their term does not automatically continue.

Even numbered years

- *physicians,*
- *dentists,*
- *pharmacists, and*
- *fiscal court appointees*

Odd numbered years

- * *nurses,*
- * *engineers,*
- * *optometrists,*
- * *veterinarians, and*
- * *laypersons*

Professional members must maintain a current Kentucky license in the profession relevant to their respective board seat. Nominees must also reside in the county they will be serving. If professionals in the county are unavailable to serve, the Commissioner of Public Health may at his/her discretion appoint a resident layperson to the vacancy. Individuals appointed off-cycle to fill a vacancy will serve until the end of the current two-year term designated for their respective seat.

Nominations are submitted during the months of September and October. For additional information, statutes and regulations regarding Boards of Health, please visit the [KDPH BOH website](#). Nominations are to be in accordance with KRS 212.020.