



Richard Bland College

BOARD OF VISITORS

POSITION DESCRIPTION: RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE BOARD OF VISITORS

I. Role Summary

As the governing body of Richard Bland College, the Board of Visitors provides strategic oversight, fiscal stewardship, and policy leadership for the institution. The Board collectively ensures that RBC fulfills its mission as a selective, residential, two-year college within the Commonwealth's system of public higher education. The Board acts only as a deliberative body; individual members have authority only when acting as part of the Board.

II. Primary Responsibilities of the Board

A. Mission, Strategy, and Institutional Effectiveness

- Adopt and periodically review the mission, vision, and core values of the College.
- Approve and monitor implementation of the College's strategic plan.
- Ensure that academic quality, student success, and access remain institutional priorities. Monitor progress on institutional goals using data and performance indicators.

B. Selection, Support, and Evaluation of the President

- Recruit, appoint, and establish compensation for the President.
- Conduct a rigorous, annual performance review of the President.
- Support the President as the Chief Executive Officer while holding the role accountable.
- Maintain the appropriate separation between governance and management.

C. Fiduciary Oversight

- Approve operating and capital budgets; oversee financial health and long-term sustainability.
- Ensure compliance with laws, regulations, accreditation standards, and internal controls.
- Exercise oversight of enterprise risk management and cybersecurity.

D. Academic Oversight

- Approve new academic programs, majors, and degrees.
- Monitor academic quality, learning outcomes, and accreditation status.
- Protect academic freedom and uphold shared governance principles.

E. Policy & Governance Leadership

- Adopt, review, and revise institutional policies consistent with law and best practice.
- Abide by established board bylaws and participate in continuous board assessment and development.
- Ensure organizational integrity, transparency, and accountability to the public.
- Delegate appropriate authority to the President while monitoring institutional performance.

F. Advancement, External Relations & Public Trust

- Serve collectively as ambassadors for the College.
- Provide leadership for philanthropic efforts and advocacy with state leaders.
- Enhance the visibility and reputation of the institution statewide.

G. Access and Student Well-Being

- Promote student success, campus safety, and an educational environment conducive to learning.
- Support initiatives related to affordability, financial aid, and student life.

III. Board Structure & Operations

- Operate primarily as a board of the whole; Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee and Ad Hoc Committees deliberate and recommend to the full board for action.
- Meet regularly as required by statute and bylaws; maintain detailed minutes and records.
- Conduct annual board and committee self-evaluations and periodic governance reviews.
- Ensure compliance with Commonwealth training requirements for board members.

IV. Collective Conduct Principles

- The Board speaks with one voice once decisions are made, and the Rector is spokesperson for the Board of Visitors.
- Members maintain confidentiality of closed-session deliberations.
- Decisions are made using established procedures, data, and deliberative processes.
- The Board fosters a culture of respect, collaboration, inquiry, and high performance.