



CHICAGO LOOP ALLIANCE ASSOCIATE BOARD INTEREST FORM

Chicago Loop Alliance

[Chicago Loop Alliance](#) (CLA) leads the community by creating and supporting inclusive programs that attract people and investment to the Loop.

The organization was founded in 2005 following a merger between the Central Michigan Avenue Association and the Greater State Street Council, which was created in 1929 and consisted of local merchants eager to promote economic prosperity for their businesses during the Great Depression. The Chicago Loop is defined as the Chicago River on the north and west, Ida B. Wells drive on the south, and Lake Michigan on the east. Currently, CLA represents over 300 organizations located within the Loop, downtown Chicago, and beyond.

Board of Directors and Governing Structure

CLA is governed by a Board of Directors, which initiated an associate board in 2025, as an inaugural effort in advancing the organization's strategic objective of engaging the next generation of leaders by Ensuring Everyone's Neighborhood. The Associate Board has been established by CLA's Board to provide supplemental support to the organization's foundational giving and serve as an auxiliary funnel for future representatives among the CLA Board of Directors.

Associate Board Governance

The Associate Board should consist of no more than fifteen (15) individuals from organizations within or with a vested interest in the work of Chicago Loop Alliance. Members should be aged 25-44. The Associate Board is comprised of two elected positions – chair and vice chair – with an ad hoc liaison based on capacity needs.

Membership Requirements

- Attend the scheduled board meetings bi-monthly on predetermined dates
- An annual \$1,000 give/get to Chicago Loop Alliance Foundation
- Contribute to the Associate Board's annual fundraising goal of \$15,000 annually through one annual event
- After the first year of service, Associate Board members will have the opportunity to renew their commitment for a two-year term, with renewals occurring every two years thereafter.
- Assist in garnering visibility and support for Chicago Loop Alliance Foundation programming
- Keep your membership dues and company information current
- Act as an ambassador for Chicago Loop Alliance, promoting CLA's mission and initiatives
- Attend CLA events whenever possible, including but not limited to, LoopedIn networking events, CLAF events – Annual Meeting and Annual Gala, and placemaking projects like Sundays on State.

We recruit for the Associate Board once a year each fall. [Applications for the 2025 Fall recruitment are open through October 31.](#)



Interested candidates are invited to attend an Interest Mixer. This is an informal opportunity to meet Chicago Loop Alliance staff, board, committee members, and other interested Associate Board members; learn more about Chicago Loop Alliance; and ask questions regarding the application process.

Following the application close, the Steering Committee will compile a selection of viable applicants. Finalists will be selected and asked to participate in an interview with the Steering Committee and will be notified of selection by January 2026.

If you wish to apply for participation on the Associate Board in 2026, please complete the form below and sign. Active participation is crucial to advancing the mission and goals of CLA. If you feel you cannot fulfill these responsibilities, please let us know immediately. Thank you for your consideration, the Steering Committee will be in touch to conduct formal interviews in Q4 2025. We are extremely grateful for your support and your many contributions to the organization.

- I have read the duties and responsibilities that come with participation on the Chicago Loop Alliance Associate Board and

☐ Yes, I wish to apply for a position on the 2026 Associate Board

☐ No, I must decline participation on the board at this time

Why do you wish to be a part of Chicago Loop Alliance's Associate Board?

Why do you think you'd be a beneficial addition to Chicago Loop Alliance and its Associate Board?

Full Name:

Title:



Company:

Email:

Phone:

INTERNAL USE ONLY: Race and Ethnicity (check all that apply):

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latinx
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ White/Caucasian

Signature:

Date: