

ARTICLE THREE: MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS, MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA, RESIGNATION, REMOVAL

SECTION ONE. Application Process

All interested parties may apply for membership by submitting a completed RCAT application, brief bio and/or resume to the Chief Executive Officer, or designee. Recommendations may be received from the RTA Board Chairman or members, RCAT members and the public. In addition, notice of available positions on the committee (RCAT) shall be publicized. Solicitations of recommended applicants are encouraged from current or past RCAT members. The process for recommendation for new membership terms is as follows:

- Review RCAT Applications
- Review bio and/or resume
- CEO will compile a list of all interested and eligible applicants
- CEO shall present the compiled list of eligible applicants to RCAT Members
- Recommendation of Appointment to RTA Board Chairman from CEO
- Appointment by RTA Board Chairman
- Confirmation by RTA Board of Directors

The process for appointment of an RCAT member to fill an unexpired term will follow the same process outlined above.

SECTION TWO. Membership Criteria

As the RCAT of the RTA is charged with the oversight and advice on general development and operations of paratransit and fixed route services of the RTA, it is an important requirement that individuals appointed to RCAT meet or surpass established criteria. The following criteria were developed in accordance with Chapter 451.

- Verifiable affiliation to related service organization or advocacy group
- Community involvement (relative to committee purpose)
- Knowledge and familiarity of RTA paratransit services/fixed route system
- Sensitivity to and/or practical experience with people who have disabling conditions
- Communication skills (RTA will make reasonable accommodations to alternative modes of communication; responsive to ADA regulations, i.e., signing, large print, etc.)
- Intangibles (*This rating must be supported with some written documentation.*)

SECTION THREE. The RCAT Chairperson is appointed by the Chairman of the RTA Board and confirmed by the RTA Board of Directors.

SECTION FOUR. There are up to (10) ten members. These ten members represent citizens with disabilities, B-Line and Fixed Route service riders, public agencies and the general community. The committee has a goal to seat membership as follows: 40% of the membership represented by transportation disadvantaged population; 40% of the membership representing organizations that serve or advocate for persons with disabilities (examples include, but are not limited to, DARS, Nueces County MHMR, Area Council for the Deaf); 10% of the membership represented by a fixed-route rider; and 10% other. The goal of the committee is to encourage inclusion and diversity by seating a broad range of community partners as members of the committee.

SECTION FIVE. Each member is appointed to a two (2) year term except for the chairperson who serves at the pleasure of the RTA Board; terms are staggered. Members may be appointed for up to four (4) consecutive two (2) year terms. A committee member who has reached the term limit of eight consecutive years of service may reapply for membership after a one-year absence.