



INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATE APPLICATION TO SERVE ON ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Under the Federal Marketing Order establishing the Almond Board of California (“ABC”), the Blue Diamond Board of Directors elects two member growers and two alternates to the cooperative grower seats Blue Diamond Growers holds on the ABC.

Applications to serve on the Almond Board of California in one of the cooperative grower seats and one of the alternate seats are open from February 1, 2026-March 1, 2026.

QUALIFICATIONS

To be qualified to serve in the Blue Diamond Growers’ cooperative grower seat or alternate cooperative grower seat on the ABC, candidates must meet the following criteria:

1. You must be a member (either MBA or MB5) of Blue Diamond Growers pursuant to the Bylaws;
2. You must be in good standing;
3. You must complete and submit the candidate application by March 1, 2026. The candidate application may be found here: [Application for BDG Cooperative Grower Seat on the Almond Board of California](#)

ELECTION PROCESS

The application materials will be provided to the Blue Diamond Board of Directors. Each term that these seats are open, the Blue Diamond Board of Directors will elect one candidate to serve in the cooperative grower seat, and one candidate to serve in the alternate cooperative grower seat, for the ABC. The Blue Diamond Growers Board of Directors will notify candidates of their selection in the Summer of 2026. The term for the Almond Board of California begins in August 2026 and every elected board member must be confirmed by the USDA Secretary of Agriculture.

For questions about the candidate applications, the election process or your submission, please contact Lauren Leonard, Vice President, Corporate Counsel, Corporate Secretary, at lleonard@bdgrowers.com.

Member-growers may find information about the role and responsibilities of the ABC on the following page or by contacting Alicia Rockwell, Chief Government & Public Affairs Officer at arockwell@bdgrowers.com.

Overview of Participation on The Almond Board of California Board of Directors

Those considering running a director position with the ABC should understand (1) it is preferred that candidates have previously served on an ABC committee and, (2) the candidate must be able to meet a significant time commitment for the three-year position.

Day-long board meetings occur typically four times each year and a two-day strategic planning every two years. Preparation time for board and committee meetings and the travel time to meetings and events also need to be considered.

Members who are elected to hold a Blue Diamond Growers cooperative grower seat on the ABC should:

- Act in a manner consistent with their fiduciary duties of loyalty and care to Blue Diamond Growers and the ABC.
- Demonstrate integrity and independent judgment, including the ability to understand and exercise sound judgment on issues related to the organization's goals.
- Have business or professional skills and experience that will contribute to the effectiveness of the Board and its committees.
- Intend to foster long-term value for the almond industry.
- Act in the collective interests of Blue Diamond Growers, ABC and the industry at large.
- Be willing to challenge ABC leadership constructively about ABC strategy, the adequacy of internal resources and the soundness of controls, and to insist upon a management tone and environment that values accuracy in accounting, transparency in reporting and integrity in business conduct.
- Be able to work as part of a team in an environment of trust.
- In light of their other commitments, be willing and able to devote the time and effort necessary to serve as an effective ABC director, including preparation for board and committee meetings.