



French Broad Food Co-op

Board of Directors Application

To apply as a candidate for the FBFC Board of Directors (BOD), please read the following information to determine whether you meet the requirements.

We're happy to answer any questions about the application, election process, or board service. To upload your completed application or submit an inquiry, please visit our contact form at frenchbroadfood.coop/board-contact.

All applications will be reviewed and kept on file. If approved by the BOD, current applicants will be added to the ballot for the next election. Applications on file may also be used to appoint BOD members to fill vacancies between elections. You are welcome to attach a resume/CV and return it with your completed application.

Duty of care and duty of loyalty are fiduciary responsibilities of a BOD member. Duty of care encompasses consistent attendance at meetings, participation in events, preparation for each meeting by reviewing all documents, and protecting the board's process with integrity. Duty of loyalty is the responsibility to act on behalf of FBFC in the best interest of the cooperative and its members as a whole.

Members of the BOD must:

- Be an FBFC owner in good standing.
- Have frequent, reliable access to phone and email to read and respond to communications between meetings.
- Read and study co-op bylaws, policies, articles of incorporation, industry articles, information on the BOD's governance model, and other co-op-related material.
- Attend monthly board meetings (currently the third Thursday of each month from 5:30–8:00 pm), board development retreats (1–2 weekend days per year), workdays, educational seminars, special events, and occasional extra meetings in special or emergency situations.
- Serve on, and possibly chair, a BOD committee.
- Commit to a term of 3 years.
- Work cooperatively with other BOD members to monitor, evaluate, and consult with the General Manager within the decision-making process of the Board.
- Uphold the duty of loyalty by disclosing potential conflicts of interest, not competing with the cooperative, and honoring confidentiality.
- Be 21 years of age or older.



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Cooperative Principles

1. Voluntary and open membership
2. Democratic member control
3. Member economic participation
4. Autonomy and independence
5. Education, training, and information
6. Cooperation among cooperatives
7. Concern for community

French Broad Food Co-op Vision Statement

Our vision at the French Broad Food Co-op is to be a transformative force in our community and in our work, and to serve as a model of a sustainable business alternative that nurtures social and economic well-being in an environmentally sensitive manner.

French Broad Food Co-op Mission Statement

The French Broad Food Co-op is dedicated to serving our owners and the Western North Carolina community by providing high-quality natural foods and personal care products through a mutually beneficial exchange.

We support the consumption of healthful and organic foods, grown or produced locally with ecological and social responsibility.

We encourage informed choice and consumer empowerment, with an emphasis on education and customer assistance.

We are committed to using profits to strengthen and improve the co-op community, and to provide a livable wage to our employees.

We pledge to maintain a pleasant environment that fosters goodwill, cooperation, and participation.

Learn more about the Board at frenchbroadfood.coop/bod-faq.



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1. Why are you interested in being a Board member?
2. Describe ways you have participated in this co-op, e.g., being a worker-owner, attending the annual meeting, participating on a committee, helping with an event.
3. Summarize your work, education, and background, especially as it relates to co-ops.
4. What special skills or qualities would you bring to the process of governing the co-op?
5. Can you imagine any conflicts of interest you might have regarding decisions the Board makes on behalf of co-op owners? If so, describe.
6. What are 1–2 cooperative principles that resonate strongly with you currently?
7. What do you hope to bring to the position as the owners' representative? (100 words) ***This statement will appear on the ballot if your application is recommended by the BOD.***



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Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address:

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Are you an FBFC owner?

☐ Yes

☐ No

In signing this application, the applicant indicates an understanding of the responsibilities of being an FBFC BOD member, has completed all parts of the application truthfully and to the best of their knowledge, and submits this application for consideration.

Signature: _____

Date: _____