



COUNCIL ON THE SOCIAL STATUS OF BLACK MEN AND BOYS

[HTTP://WWW.CSSBMB.COM](http://www.cssbmb.com)

COMMUNITY PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

Dear Prospective Community Participant:

Welcome to Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys. We appreciate your interest in volunteering. Your contribution as a community participant truly will make a difference in the lives of black men and boys.

1. The **First Step** to becoming a community participant with this council is to read F.S. 16.615 to understand how the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys is governed.
2. The **Second Step** to becoming a community participant with this council is to read the Community Participant Policy and complete the application process, which consists of the following tasks:
 - Complete the Community Participant Application.
 - Provide the names and addresses of **three non-related individuals on the application** who can verify your qualifications for becoming a community participant.

You can expect to be notified regarding the status of your application within 3 weeks after it is submitted. There will be no discrimination against qualified adult volunteer by reason of disability, age, race, color, ethnicity, sex, or socio-economic status. If your application is approved, you will receive an official letter of appointment to the subcommittee (s) for which you applied. **Until appointed, volunteers should not serve in the position for which they applied.**

Again, thank you for your interest in volunteering with us, and we wish you a successful membership year!

16.615 Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys.--

(1) The Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys is established within the Department of Legal Affairs and shall consist of 19 members appointed as follows:

(a) Two members of the Senate who are not members of the same political party, appointed by the President of the Senate with the advice of the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(b) Two members of the House of Representatives who are not members of the same political party, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives with the advice of the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

(c) The Secretary of Children and Family Services or his or her designee.

(d) The director of the Mental Health Program Office within the Department of Children and Family Services or his or her designee.

(e) The State Surgeon General or his or her designee.

(f) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.

(g) The Secretary of Corrections or his or her designee.

(h) The Attorney General or his or her designee.

(i) The Secretary of Management Services or his or her designee.

(j) The director of the Agency for Workforce Innovation or his or her designee.

(k) A businessperson who is an African American, as defined in s. 760.80(2)(a), appointed by the Governor.

(l) Two persons appointed by the President of the Senate who are not members of the Legislature or employed by state government. One of the appointees must be a clinical psychologist.

(m) Two persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives who are not members of the Legislature or employed by state government. One of the appointees must be an African studies professional.

(n) The deputy secretary for Medicaid in the Agency for Health Care Administration or his or her designee.

(o) The Secretary of Juvenile Justice or his or her designee.

(2) Each member of the council shall be appointed to a 4-year term; however, for the purpose of providing staggered terms, of the initial appointments, 9 members shall be appointed to 2-year terms and 10 members shall be appointed to 4-year terms. A member of the council may be removed at any time by the member's appointing authority who shall fill the vacancy on the council.

(3)(a) At the first meeting of the council each year, the members shall elect a chair and a vice chair.

(b) A vacancy in the office of chair or vice chair shall be filled by vote of the remaining members.

(4)(a) The council shall make a systematic study of the conditions affecting black men and boys, including, but not limited to, homicide rates, arrest and incarceration rates, poverty, violence, drug abuse, death rates, disparate annual income levels, school performance in all grade levels including postsecondary levels, and health issues.

(b) The council shall propose measures to alleviate and correct the underlying causes of the conditions described in paragraph (a). These measures may consist of changes to the law or systematic changes that can be implemented without legislative action.

(c) The council may study other topics suggested by the Legislature or as directed by the chair of the council.

(d) The council shall receive suggestions or comments pertinent to the applicable issues from members of the Legislature, governmental agencies, public and private organizations, and private citizens.

(e) The council shall monitor outcomes of the direct-support organization created pursuant to s. 16.616.

(f) The council shall develop a strategic program and funding initiative to establish local Councils on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys.

(5) The council may:

(a) Access data held by any state departments or agencies, which data is otherwise a public record.

(b) Make requests directly to the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee for assistance with research and monitoring of outcomes by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability.

(c) Request, through council members who are also legislators, research assistance from the Office of Economic and Demographic Research within the Florida Legislature.

(d) Request information and assistance from the state or any political subdivision, municipal corporation, public officer, or governmental department thereof.

(e) Apply for and accept funds, grants, gifts, and services from the state, the Federal Government or any of its agencies, or any other public or private source for the purpose of defraying clerical and administrative costs as may be necessary for carrying out its duties under this section.

(f) Work directly with, or request information and assistance on issues pertaining to education from, Florida's historically black colleges and universities.

(6) The Office of the Attorney General shall provide staff and administrative support to the council.

(7) The council shall meet quarterly and at other times at the call of the chair or as determined by a majority of council members and approved by the Attorney General.

(8) Eleven of the members of the council constitute a quorum, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present is required for final action.

(9)(a) The council shall issue its first annual report by December 15, 2007, and by December 15 each following year, stating the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the council. The council shall submit the report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairpersons of the standing committees of jurisdiction in each chamber.

(b) The initial report must include the findings of an investigation into factors causing black-on-black crime from the perspective of public health related to mental health, other health issues, cultural disconnection, and cultural identity trauma.

(10) Members of the council shall serve without compensation. Members are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061. State officers and employees shall be reimbursed from the budget of the agency through which they serve. Other members may be reimbursed by the Department of Legal Affairs.

(11) The council and any subcommittees it forms are subject to the provisions of chapter 119, related to public records, and the provisions of chapter 286, related to public meetings.

(12) Each member of the council who is not otherwise required to file a financial disclosure statement pursuant to s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution or s. 112.3144, must file a disclosure of financial interests pursuant to s. 112.3145.

History.--s. 1, ch. 2006-123; s. 2, ch. 2008-6; s. 1, ch. 2008-130.



Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys

Community Participant Policy

“To constantly strive to alleviate and correct the underlying conditions that affect black men and boys throughout the State of Florida to bring about an environment that promotes the values of learning, family, prosperity, unity, and self-worth among black men and boys.”

Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys

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Definition of “Community Participant”

A “Community Participant” is any person, either in his/her individual capacity or as a representative of an entity, who without compensation or expectation of compensation, including but not limited to travel reimbursement, performs a task at the direction of and on behalf of the Council or any of its committees. Community Participants are not considered members of the Council or any of its committees.

Acceptance and Length of Service

Community Participants must be officially accepted by the Council. The Council may only accept the service of Community Participants with the understanding that such service is at the sole discretion of the Council, the Council chair or the appropriate committee chair. The Council or the Council chair may, for whatever reason, decide to terminate the Community Participant’s relationship with the Council or appropriate committee.

All Community Participants shall have a set term of service not exceeding one year. Community Participants may serve additional terms if each term is approved by the Council.

Community Participants may resign from their volunteer service with the Council or appropriate committee at any time. The Council requests that a Community Participant intending to resign provide advance notice of his/her resignation.

Scope of Service

Community Participants and staff are considered to be partners in implementing the mission and vision of the Council. Community Participants are encouraged to attend Council and committee meetings, and Community Participants shall be included in all distribution lists.

Community Participants should receive all necessary information pertinent to the performance of their work assignment(s). Accordingly, Community Participants should be included in and have access to all correspondents, materials and meetings relevant to the committee work assignments.

Community Participants are responsible for understanding the Sunshine Law and the Florida public records laws as they relate to their actions.

Representation of the Council or Any Committee

Prior to any action or statement which may affect the Council or any of its committees, Community Participants must seek prior approval from the Council chair or appropriate staff members. These actions may include, but are not limited to, public statements to the press and coalition or lobbying efforts with other organizations. Community Participants are not authorized to act as representatives of the Council or any of its committees.

Conduct

As volunteers of the Council or any of its committees, Community Participants are responsible for presenting a positive image to the community.

Any questions relating to this policy should be directed the Council Chair or staff

SECTIONV – REFERENCES

A reference should be a person (non-relative) who is familiar with your qualifications and/or experiences. Please provide three references, including mailing addresses and phone numbers.

Reference #1

Name:

Street Address:

Apt. #:

City:

State:

Zip:

Home Phone:

Business Phone:

E-mail address:

Relationship to you (Note: reference must be non-related):

Reference #2

Name:

Street Address:

Apt. #:

City:

State:

Zip:

Home Phone:

Business Phone:

E-mail address:

Relationship to you (Note: reference must be non-related):

Reference #3

Name:

Street Address:

Apt. #:

City:

State:

Zip:

Home Phone:

Business Phone:

E-mail address:

Relationship to you (Note: reference must be non-related):

AFFIRMATION AND SIGNATURE

In making my application for service, I express my acceptance of the beliefs and principles of the Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys that are stated in the F.S. 16.615 and the Community Participant Policy. **With my signature below, I further certify that:** The information provided by me on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification or significant omissions may be considered justification for non-acceptance or dismissal from my volunteer position.

Signature:

Date:

Please complete, print, and mail/fax to:

Fredrica Doctor

Research and Training Specialist

Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys

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