

Candidate Brief

Governor with senior professional financial management experience.

The Legal Education Foundation



Wild Search

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Appointment of Governor with senior professional financial management experience.

Background

"To promote the advancement of legal education and the study of law in all its branches"

The Legal Education Foundation, a Royal Charter charitable foundation was created in late 2012 with the monies received from the sale of the education and training business of The College of Law. The proceeds of the sale, £200 million, have been invested with the aim of providing an annual amount of 3.5% of the Fund Capital to advance the charitable Object of the Foundation which is "to promote the advancement of legal education and the study of law in all its branches".

The Object is currently delivered by supporting public and civic legal education and developing a broad range of schemes aimed at promoting access to justice through legal education and an understanding of the law. There is no geographic limit to the Foundation's activities although currently the Governors restrict its grants programme to the United Kingdom.

Since 2013, The Legal Education Foundation has awarded more than 390 grants totalling £22 million to organisations across the UK.

For more information on The Legal Education Foundation and to read its latest Annual Review please visit:

<https://www.thelegaleducationfoundation.org/about-the-legal-education-foundation/annual-review>

Appointment of Governor: Context

The Foundation currently has ten Governors, with a further appointment about to be confirmed. It is managed day-to-day by an executive team led by a CEO. The current strategy is to make grants to a variety of organisations, working in different social, professional and academic settings and to bring people in linked areas of activity together. The aims are supported by commissioning research to measure impact and ensure the best approaches are adopted.

Key Strategic Objectives

- Increase public understanding of the law and the capability to use it.
- Advance high-quality thinking, training and practice in legal education and legal services so as to ensure legal needs are met.
- Widen access to employment in the legal profession and, in particular, to advance social mobility and diversity.

Themes

Areas of current focus and interest where grant applications are encouraged:

- To support civil society engagement with constitutional and rule of law principles in relation to the exercise of Executive power and Brexit.
- To develop the role of social welfare legal advice needs in health settings through legal education with health professionals and development of models to expand the provision of services.
- To influence the development and operation of the on-line court in a manner that maximises the ability of individuals to secure just outcomes in relation to their rights and protections.

Tools

- Research to develop a robust evidence base of needs in each of the areas above and of effective ways of meeting these needs.
- Work to understand the role that technology can play in achieving these objectives.
- Work on law reform, policy and regulation to create a supportive environment for the delivery of the objectives.
- Communications activity to disseminate learning and to create a supportive environment for the delivery of the objectives.

The Foundation does not take part in or fund political campaigning.

About the Board

The Legal Education Foundation has ten Governors, with a further appointment about to be confirmed. The current Board Members are:

Guy Beringer CBE (Chair)

David Armstrong

Ailsa Beaton OBE

Rupert Baron

Timothy Dutton QC CBE

Roger Finbow

Jonathan Freeman

Sally James (Deputy Chair)

Alison Pickup

Jane Reeves

Governors' meetings are held five times a year in central London. In addition, Governors may be invited to join one of four Committees (Audit, Grants, Investment and Nominations). These meet less frequently, usually two to four times a year. If ad hoc decisions or discussions are necessary, there may be conference calls and/or emails in circulation with required papers.

The Role and Requirement

As a result of a skills audit and succession planning, it has been identified that the Governing board would benefit from a further person who has extensive knowledge and experience of financial management and a business background.

Candidates must have appropriate professional qualifications.

Candidates will demonstrate the following general characteristics and experience:

- sympathetic to the ethos, values and mission of the Foundation;
- a track record in their chosen field;
- experience of strategic decision making at senior level;
- the ability to work in a board setting having done so in a quoted Plc, major unquoted organisation or not for profit organisation or alternatively could be a partner in a law firm with a not for profit practice with experience of advising on financial aspects of governance.;
- an understanding of the Non-Executive role and how it can be used to guide and support the executives.

The Foundation is particularly interested in receiving applications from people who work from a base outside London and the South East.

It would be desirable for the ideal candidate to also have some experience or knowledge of the following area:

- developing the use of technology to improve organisational effectiveness.

Terms and Conditions

Whilst most members of staff are based at the Foundation's registered office in Guildford, Surrey, Governors' meetings are held in London normally at 4 pm.

Governors are unremunerated, although expenses are reimbursed. Governors are appointed for a period of three years, renewable for up to two further terms in line with good corporate governance standards.

How to Apply

The Legal Education Foundation has engaged Wild Search to advise on this appointment. Anyone interested in applying should contact them to discuss the requirements further or apply by email (lef@wildsearch.org) including:

1. A full curriculum vitae;
2. A covering note of c500 words, setting out relevant experience and interest;
3. Names and contact details of three referees.

Amy Wevill and Edward Wild are managing the process at Wild Search and can be contacted on 0207 233 2230.

Please be aware that by contacting Wild Search about this role, or applying, your data will be held in accordance with our [Privacy Policy](#).

The deadline for application is **18th February 2019** at 12 noon.

The shortlisted candidates will be notified and invited to attend an interview in mid-March. All shortlisted candidates will be notified thereafter of the outcome and, if unsuccessful, feedback will be provided.