

PREPARE AND PACKAGE YOURSELF AS AN ATTRACTIVE CORPORATE BOARD CANDIDATE

Strengthen and enrich your career while leveraging your strategic and financial skills.

Inforum BoardAccess[™] provides resources, support and networking opportunities for women who are qualified for seats on public and private corporate boards today and in the future. The initiative is expected to help retain Michigan's top female executive talent, enhance corporate decision-making processes and improve board diversity.

- **One-on-one coaching** helps qualified senior executives chart a personal course for board service. Five BoardAccess coaching and pre-work sessions with a board mentor are tailored to fit a busy executive's schedule and provide an action-oriented, flexible framework for building a "board brand."
- **Exclusive networking** opportunities connect qualified candidates with CEOs, current board directors, executive recruiters and other advocates for advice and support on the road to corporate board service.
- **Informational sessions** broaden attendees' perspectives on board service and career decisions that may enhance future board credentials.
- **National reach and influence** means BoardAccess participants benefit from Inforum's connection to national efforts and research to advance gender diversity on corporate boards.

As part of *Inforum BoardAccess*[™], the program provides:

- Tools to assess your board ready skills, strengths and interests
- One-on-one coaching by mentoring executives with board-related experience
- A national network of mentors/coaches from a variety of backgrounds
- Five comprehensive coaching and pre-work sessions to fit your busy schedule
- Inforum's action oriented, flexible framework for leveraging your strengths
- Outcomes focused on creating a personalized strategy to pursue board service
- Exclusive networking opportunities with CEOs, serving directors
- A circle of like-minded women to explore opportunities and new ideas
- Listing your board ready profile on a national database of director candidates

Who should participate?

Inforum BoardAccess[™] is designed for senior level executives with the business, management or professional experience necessary to be effective corporate directors. Candidates should possess the business expertise, financial literacy, strategic perspective and judgement to perform well in decision making and governance roles on corporate boards. Participants should be open to frank and honest assessments of strengths and gaps related to board service, and commit the time and energy needed to develop and execute personal action plans to secure board positions.

Program Outline:

- To qualify for the program, interested participants submit a resume and the completed board readiness survey to the program director.
- An upfront assessment and interview will be conducted to ensure each candidate can benefit from the program.
- Upon acceptance in the program an *Inforum BoardAccess*[™] professional holds an interview with each applicant to discuss program expectations and begin the matching process. Individuals are matched with coaches and placed in the program based on the availability of the selected coach.
- A series of five one-hour, one-on-one coaching sessions are held. During the first coaching session, the coach will determine with the candidate her level of board readiness, if she wants to proceed with the program, and set individual goals around developing a personal action plan for board placement. Four subsequent sessions focus on the development process and completing the action plan. Coaching sessions can take place by telephone, be web-based, or held in person, depending on the coach's location and candidate's preference.
- Following the coaching sessions (about a six month process) and based on the coach's recommendation, the participant will be linked into exclusive networking opportunities with CEOs and serving directors.
- The program fee also includes a one-year Inforum membership to assist the candidate in networking with other executives.
- All *Inforum BoardAccess*[™] participants have access to workshops, web resources on board readiness topics and a national database for listing their board-ready resumes.

Outcomes:

During the coaching process, individual participants will explore their business, financial and governance acumen and readiness for board service. Participants develop and get feedback on their personal action plan to secure board positions and their board-ready resume or bio. The goal at the conclusion of the program is that each participant has confidence in her readiness to seek a board position along with a realistic action plan and timeline to be executed toward that end. The advantage of listing a board-ready profile on a national database of director candidates sets our candidates apart from others.

Cost:

Total cost of the program is \$3,200. This includes a non-refundable \$700 fee for the application, pre-screening interview, assessment and matching process, and \$2,500 for the five sessions. If an applicant decides not to proceed with the program after the first session, \$2,000 of the fee is refunded.