

# MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONALS IN CHRISTIAN PHILANTHROPY (PCP)

*PCP is a peer learning community of professionals striving to sharpen and encourage one another toward excellence in faith-inspired grant making.*

## Five Essential Characteristics of PCP

We are guided in our efforts by the following essential characteristics:

1. We build trusted **Relationships** with one another. These connections are at the core of what we do.
2. Our community is a **Safe Environment**. PCP is always a “pitch-free zone.”
3. We value and seek **Diversity** within our membership.
4. Our community and work is **Faith-inspired**. We are believers in Jesus Christ, and grant-makers to Christian organizations and causes.
5. We are **Practitioners**, professionals entrusted with the work of making grants.

## Membership Criteria for PCP

To qualify for membership, nominees must meet the following three criteria:

1. Members must have personal faith in Christ.
2. In their work, members must do grant making to Christian faith-inspired nonprofit organizations and causes.
3. Members must have a professional role in grant making.

Please note that membership in PCP is offered on an individual basis, not institutionally, regardless of whether there is someone at a nominee’s organization who is already a PCP member.

## Nomination Process

Any current member of PCP may nominate someone for membership. Self-nominations are also welcome.

1. Nominations should be sent to Cary Paine ([cpaine@stewardshipfdn.org](mailto:cpaine@stewardshipfdn.org)) or Kate Sedgwick ([admin@pcpcommunity.com](mailto:admin@pcpcommunity.com)).
2. In a written recommendation, the nominator should make the case that the nominee satisfies all three of the membership criteria.
3. When satisfied that the criteria are met, the nominee’s candidacy will be presented to the steering committee for consideration and approval.

## What is “a professional role in grantmaking?”

As a network of peers, PCP is not aimed at those in other related roles in philanthropy, such as consultants, board members, or other staff roles such as administrative, human resource, and finance personnel.

1. PCP distinguishes between those hired or entrusted to do the work of making grants (such as program officers and executive directors) who are eligible, and those who are on boards and/or are principals acting upon grant recommendations, who are ineligible.
2. Family members (through lineage or marriage) of foundation principals are eligible if serving in a staff role.
3. Included are those who are hired to work directly for individual donors; PCP is not limited to foundation staff.
4. Our community is not designed for those who serve as consultants for foundations or donors, advise or encourage the philanthropy of others through financial arrangements separate from direct grant-making (such as Donor Advised Funds), or engage in grant-making on behalf of denominational and/or church-based entities.