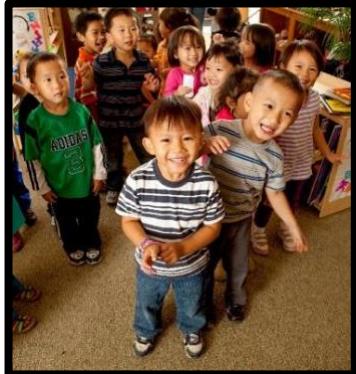




First 5 Sonoma County Commissioner Recruitment: TK-12 Public Education Leader

Information & Application Form



First 5 Sonoma County is seeking a local education leader representing Sonoma County's TK-12 public education systems to fill a vacancy on the 9-member First 5 Commission. Candidates should have deep knowledge of the current needs, interests and concerns of Sonoma County's TK-12 public education systems and how they intersect with and support the needs of children, birth to five years old and their families.

This recruitment also prioritizes the Commission's goal of increasing representation of Black, Indigenous and other people of color in the governance of First 5 Sonoma County as members of the Commission.

Please review the following Commissioner description describing roles and responsibilities, complete the application and return via email to Kathleen Natividad at knatividad@first5sonomacounty.org by **5pm on 9/30/22**. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to observe a First 5 Commission public meeting via Zoom. Upcoming meetings are **August 22** and **September 26, 3:30-5**. The Zoom links can be found on the First 5 Sonoma County website at <http://www.first5sonomacounty.org>

History & Purpose of First 5 Sonoma County

Traditionally, society invests most heavily in children during their school years, yet brain research shows that children's brains develop most dramatically in their first five years of life. During this window of opportunity, the foundation of a child's life-long potential is established, so investing in these early years is critical. Children who start out in safe, nurturing environments grow up to be happier, healthier people. First 5 supports the health and well-being of children and their families to prepare children to succeed—at home, at school, in life.

First 5 invests in Sonoma County's youngest children by supporting practice, programs, systems and policies that promote optimal early development from the prenatal stage through age five. The Commission develops and is guided by a strategic plan that outlines the needs of young children and their families in the county, goals and priority outcomes, and is updated regularly to respond to trends impacting children and families; the current plan can be found [here](#).

The First 5 Sonoma County Commission was established by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors in December 1998 and is primarily funded by [Proposition 10](#), a statewide ballot initiative that added fifty cents per pack to cigarettes and other tobacco products. The resulting revenues are allocated statewide to First 5 California (20%) and to a First 5 Children and Families Commission in every California county (based on birth rate). The First 5 Sonoma County Commission directs the investment of more than \$5 million annually to support the optimal development of children from birth to age five in Sonoma County.





First 5 Commission Membership

Three permanent ex officio members:

- A member of the Board of Supervisors
- Director of the Sonoma County Human Services Department, or their designee
- Director of the Department of Health Services, or their designee

Six at-large members, each member representing at least one of the following categories:

- Organization focused on parenting, and/or early childhood development
- Private sector, businesses, business associations, chambers of commerce
- Child Care Planning Council or Resource & Referral Agency
- Post-secondary educator specializing in early childhood development
- Local TK-12 public education systems
- Local medical, pediatric, or obstetric associations
- City or town that has established policy and/or dedicated resources to promoting the healthy development of children
- Parent who is a recipient or parent of a child who is a recipient of First 5-funded services

First 5 Commissioner Roles & Responsibilities

1. Constructively contribute to a collective strategic policy decision-making process that centers racial equity and through a targeted universalism approach, addresses the needs of the most marginalized.
2. Elevate critical issues impacting children's health and well-being in the community and advocate for policies and resources that promote optimal development.
3. Prepare for, attend and engage in 10 monthly Commission meetings annual and actively participate as a member of 2 ad hoc or regular sub-committees.
4. Ensure fiscal accountability and ethical, responsible stewardship of public funds.
5. Uphold principles of fairness and transparency in government by acting in accordance with Commission's bylaws and in compliance with the Brown Act.
6. Comply with conflict of interest requirements; actively avoid all real or perceived conflicts of interest.
7. Completes Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) and ethics training on a yearly basis.

Reimbursement of Expenses

At-large members of the Commission may request to receive:

- \$75 per diem for meetings and half day events
- \$125 per diem for whole day events and meetings
- Mileage reimbursement
- Reimbursement for the cost of child care necessary to attend Commission and committee meetings



First 5 Sonoma County Commissioner Application

Return completed application via email to: knatividad@first5sonomacounty.org

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Name: | |
| Address: | |
| Mailing Address: | |
| Home Phone: | Business Phone: |
| Cell Phone: | Email: |
| How long have you resided in Sonoma County? | |
| Present Occupation & Employer: | |

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL / COMMUNITY SERVICE:

| District/Organization | Dates Served | Role/Position |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Describe your work as a leader in TK-12 public education in Sonoma County and how it intersects with First 5's mission to promote optimal child development, including kindergarten readiness.

Describe your understanding of the role and responsibilities of the First 5 Sonoma County Commission.



Describe your personal aspirations for what you hope to contribute as a First 5 Commissioner.

Please describe any concerns or limitations that would impact your commitment to serve on the Commission for a two-year term (e.g. attendance at Commission and sub-committee meetings, preparation for meetings). Please note that Commission meetings take place 3:30-5pm on the 4th Monday of the month (January, February, March, April, May, June, August, September, October) and the 1st Monday in December.

Please list two local references, including contact information.

NOTE: Appointees will be required to take an Oath of Office and will be subject to filing an annual Statement of Economic Interest

Signature

Date