

## What Is the Role of an Ex-Officio Board Member?

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There is typically some degree of confusion surrounding the definition and role of an ex-officio board member among board directors, executive directors, CEO's, and managers of corporations and non-profits. The term, ex-officio, is a Latin phrase that literally translates "from the office." [Robert's Rules](#) explains the connection between the term and the meaning. It relates to the notion that the position refers the position the ex-officio holds, rather than the individual that holds the position.

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### How Quorums and Voting Factor

[Robert's Rules](#) states that ex-officio members should not be included in the count when determining the number needed for a [quorum](#) and they should not be counted when determining if a quorum is present. Both members and non-members of organizations that serve as ex-officio board members typically have voting privileges; however, that right can be excluded when it is stated as such in the bylaws.

The rules for ex-officio board members are actually pretty clear. Ultimately, they are not as complicated or confusing as they seem on the surface. The most important thing to consider is that the title of ex-officio follows the position, or the office, as in its Latin roots, "from the office." It is not a special type of membership, but whether the ex-officio is a member of the organization has a direct bearing on the responsibility and accountability that the ex-officio holds with regard to the position.

Full Article can be found at: <https://www.boardeffect.com/blog/what-is-the-role-of-an-ex-officio-board-member/>