



Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title Dr.

First Name Jennifer

Last Name Thistle

Today's Date 10/10/2023

Street Address

██████████

City Bellingham

Zip 98229

Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? Yes

Do you have a different mailing address? *Field not completed.*

Primary Telephone

██████████

Secondary Telephone

██████████

Email Address thistlj@wwu.edu

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Committee Developmental Disabilities Board

2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying? Yes

3. Which Council district do you live in? District 1

4. Are you a US citizen? Yes

5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? Yes

6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county? No

7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission? No

8. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County? Yes

If yes, please explain Employed by Western Washington University

You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & *Field not completed.*

interest in response to the following questions

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

I am an associate professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Western Washington University. I am also a certified Speech-Language Pathologist, with expertise in child language development, disorders, and augmentative and alternative communication. In my role at Western, I teach coursework and conduct research in these areas. I also supervisor graduate student clinicians, mentoring and teaching them skills to prepare them to work as speech-language pathologists. I have a master's of special education from Fitchburg State College (MA), a master's of science in speech language pathology from Emerson College (MA), and a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State College (PA). As for community activities, I have served on one board previously, the Whatcom County ARC, from 2019 - 2021. I have also volunteered as a coach for the YMCA Trailblazers off and on since 2018.

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

My interest in serving on this board is rooted in a desire to build connections with the community. Since coming to Western in 2017, I have focused on building my academic career. Now, I am looking outward for ways to connect with and support my community. I feel like my knowledge, skills, and interests are well matched for the DDAB priorities.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Margaret Savage, co-worker, [REDACTED]
Kelli Evans, co-worker, [REDACTED]

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Jennifer Thistle

Place Signed / Submitted

Bellingham, WA
