

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Monday, February 27, 2023 11:42:47 PM

Board and Commission Application

Step 1

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 Ms.

First Name Samantha

Last Name Cruz-Mendoza

Today's Date 2/27/2023

Street Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED]

Zip [REDACTED]

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 [REDACTED]

Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

Email Address [REDACTED]

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Committee Child & Family Well-Being Task Force

Child & Family Well-Being Task Force	Yes
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 2
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?	No
You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions	<i>Field not completed.</i>

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

I am currently an Executive Legislative Assistant for the Washington State House of Representatives and have a vast knowledge of policy from my time at the state legislature, along with the information I receive on a daily basis from constituents whether in person or via email to the state representative, I am constantly informed of issues relevant to this Taskforce as the representative I am assistant to serves on the House Human Services, Youth & Early Learning committee. From a day to day basis during the session I handle constituent correspondence and take meetings from local groups that traveled to the state capitol to share their own stories pertinent to ongoing legislation. Prior to this job, I was a Trial Clerk at Whatcom County Superior Court, and during my time there, was cross-trained to clerk dependency/guardianship hearings, privy to some of the most vulnerable moments a family dealing with court issues may have had in the room with a commissioner/judge and clerk. Also during my undergrad at Washington State University, I was heavily involved with student government and had the opportunity of being the student liaison on the local Commission on the Status of Women.

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

I have lived experience on what it is to be the oldest in an immigrant household, and thus have a keen understanding of relevant issues that would be important to highlight on this Taskforce, that may otherwise not be heard. On the description listed for the Child and Family Well-Being Task Force, applicants must represent at least one of the following experiences: community members from under-represented communities. The application itself had the required question of whether or not the applicant was a United States citizen, barring any residents of Whatcom County that have been taxpayers, community strongholds, with children in the local public schools continuing their county roots that may not also be citizens, from applying. This leaves a large underrepresented community, that I have ties to but have the sheer protection of a birth certificate from St. Joseph's to remove me from its hinderings. Along with my aforementioned professional experiences, I am passionate and believe I would be an asset for this Taskforce.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Zackary Turner (425) 205-8544
Megan Filipello (509) 366-2622

Signature of applicant:

Samantha Cruz-Mendoza

Place Signed / Submitted



(Section Break)