

Name of Board or Agency you are interested in appointment to DuPage County Ethics Commission

Previous Board Experience

Have you ever served on this Board or Agency before? No

Personal Information

| | |
|---|------------|
| Name | Nancy Chen |
| Email | |
| Address | |
| Phone | |
| Upload resume (PDF or Word format) | |

Additional Information

Please explain why you wish to serve as an appointee and share any unique qualifications or experience you feel you would bring to this agency.

I am a first-generation immigrant who has proudly called DuPage County home for more than 50 years, raising my family here into the third generation. Throughout my four decades of public service and community leadership, I have devoted my career to advancing justice, accountability, and civic engagement at the highest levels of government in both the legislative and executive branches. Now, I would like to devote this experience to serve on the DuPage County Ethics Commission and promote the values of integrity, transparency, and public trust that are the foundation of good governance.

I was fortunate to begin my public service career with U.S. Senator Paul Simon, one of the most ethical and respected public officials in the nation. He and the staff upheld the highest standards of integrity—strictly adhering to Senate rules on financial disclosure, gifts, conflicts of interest, and the separation of campaign activities. Under his mentorship, I learned that ethical service is not just about legal compliance but about building and maintaining the public's trust through fairness and honesty.

My years at the White House Office of Presidential Personnel and later as an executive at the U.S. Department of Labor's Women's Bureau deepened my understanding of government ethics, compliance, and the importance of impartiality in public decision-making. I was responsible for ensuring that my employees and I adhered to ethics rules safeguarding against waste, fraud and abuse. Federal employees must abide by the rules under the Hatch Act to ensure that the federal workforce is free from partisan political influence or coercion. These experiences reinforced my belief that ethical leadership is the cornerstone of good government.

After retiring from federal service, I have continued my commitment to public integrity through local and state government appointments. As Commissioner for the Illinois Council on Aging, Commissioner for Naperville's Special Events and Community Arts (SECA) Commission, and currently as a Trustee of the Naperville Public Library, I have participated in annual ethics trainings that strengthen my appreciation for transparent, inclusive, and accountable policymaking.

As Founder and President of Chinese American Women in Action (CAWA), I have made civic participation and ethical leadership central to our programs serving Asian American youth and families.

My combined experience in federal/state administration, civic engagement, and local governance uniquely equips me to serve

effectively on the DuPage County Ethics Commission. I offer a proven record of integrity, thoughtful judgment, and collaboration grounded in public trust. I would be honored to help uphold and advance the ethical standards that ensure our county government continues to serve its residents with honesty, fairness, and accountability.

Are you a lobbyist registered with the State of Illinois?

No

Are you an elected official?

No

Are you currently employed or have an ownership interest in a company that conducts business with the government entity to which you are seeking an appointment?

No

Do you have any relatives who are currently employed with the governmental entity to which you are seeking an appointment?

No

Conviction Information

Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense?

No

Submit Application

Do you attest to the above?

Yes
