

# Application for the position Public Member

## Part I: Position Sought

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**Agency Name:** Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board  
**Position:** Public Member

## Part II: Applicant Information

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**Name:** Mr. Abdi Sabrie  
**Phone:** (507) 351-8142  
**Mailing Address:** 404 Homestead Rd Mankato 56001  
**Email:** amsabrie@gmail.com  
**County:** Blue Earth  
**Mn House District:** 19B  
**US House District:** 1  
**Recommended by the Appointing Authority:** False

## Part III: Appending Documentation

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### Cover Letter and Resume

Type	File Type
Cover Letter	application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document
Resume	application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document

### Additional Documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt)

Type	File Name
No additional documents found.	

## Part IV: Optional Statistical Information

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**Gender:** Male  
**Disability:** No  
**Age:** 57  
**Political Affiliation:** Democratic-Farm-Labor  
**Ethnicity:** African American or Black  
**Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin:** No

## Part V: Signature

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**Signature:** Abdi Sabrie  
**Date:** 6/29/2017 8:03:14 PM

Abdi Sabrie  
404 Homestead Rd  
Mankato, MN 56001  
Cell 503-351-8142  
amsabrie@gmail.com

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to Educator Licensing and standards board position advertised, I am applying to fill that position because of the following reasons and more:

- As a TRIO Advisor, I serve first generation college students, low-income, minority, and students with disability, to succeed in their academic journey, and bring down all barriers for their success.
- I have been serving and advocating for low income/minority students and their families for the last eight years in Greater Mankato, as the non-profit director of African Family and Education Center, whose mission is to bring down social barriers, provide counseling and role models for at risk youth, and advocate for low income and minority families through full access to education. I live and breathe this work on daily basis, and have made inroads of progress in Greater Mankato community for the last eight years.
- As an Immigrant/African American myself, with seven children (three in college), I have faced and fought against a lifetime of social/educational barriers in the United States, since 1982, for myself, family, and community of the socially excluded.
- As a director of a non-profit, I advocate for minority families in housing, social services, employment, educational issues from grade school to higher learning institutions, civil rights matters, etc., and I am familiar and known to these institutions. These skills and resources can be transferred for the benefit of Youth Counseling.
- As a school board member for a district with over 100 million annual budget, over 8600 students, with 2200 on the payroll, about 22% minority children, and about 40% free/reduced lunch, it is a unique perspective to be on the team that sets overall policy, yet think about the wellbeing and unique needs of the individual student, regardless of their socioeconomic background.
- My work and passion is heavy on social equity and equal opportunity to education. I had an opportunity in the recent past to work with Dean Morris and MSU Diversity Office, contributed to advancing community engagement efforts of the department, cofounded and continue working with Monthly Multicultural Networking Lunch, along with Guadalupe Quintero of the MSU Diversity Office, presented and supported efforts at MSU in eliminating prejudice like Islamophobia. I also serve the larger Greater Mankato community through many other roles: Former Commissioner for Region Development Commission representing minorities, Current Mankato Public Safety Citizens Advisory Committee, Current BEC Child Protection Committee, Former MVAC Youth Council Committee, Former Back-Pack Program Advisory Committee, and many more.

Thank you for considering my candidacy for a role that closely matches my passion in life.

Sincerely,  
Abdi Sabrie

## **ABDI SABRIE**

404 Homestead Rd  
Mankato, MN 56001  
(507) 351-8142  
(507) 933-4254  
amsabrie@gmail.com

### **OBJECTIVE**

To acquire a challenging position in an environment where I can best utilize my skills, experience and education.

### **JOB HISTORY/DUTIES**

#### **Trio Student Advisor (current)**

##### **South Central College North Mankato, MN**

Responsible for performing a range of services key to the success of students and the efficient operation of the TRIO Student Support Services Program:

- Counsel and advise participating students
- Assist with development and implementation of program activities which will aid participating students in their academic, career, personal and organizational success.
- Maintain up-to-date individual student records.
- Assist with other data collection as required.
- Assist with the direction and formulation of policies and programs that yield assistance to first-generation and/or low-income students in obtaining services available at the College campus.
- Facilitate communication between students and course instructors concerning course assignments.
- Assist with the development and implementation of activities to promote student persistence and student growth.
- Coordinate and supervise the TRIO SSS peer mentor program.
- Assist with improving the awareness of College faculty and staff about the needs of the first-generation and/or low-income student and assist in informing the College community about the goals, objectives and services of the Program.
- Assist in identifying and/or selecting eligible students to participate in the Program.
- Make referrals of participants to the Tutorial Coordinator for tutorial needs.
- Act as a referral source for personal counseling to the Counseling Center.
- Assist participants with their orientation to general academic life and its requirements.
- Attend appropriate TRIO conferences and/or TRIO training as needed.

#### **Executive Director (2009- 2016)**

##### **African Family and Education Center Mankato, MN.**

Executive Director and Cofounder of African Family and Education Center "AFEC", a nonprofit that serves and advocates for Immigrants and Refugees families in Greater Mankato, through emphasis and access to education, from preschool to higher education.

Directed after school program for Refugee Children at East High School in Mankato, to bridge the educational gaps of Refugee Students.

Directed and Coordinated "Science Saturday" a science summer boot camp at South Central College for refugee children, to spark their imagination and motivate them towards STEM fields.

Directed Employment Services under contract with Nicollet County/MVAC for refugee adults in Nicollet County.

Coordinated connecting services for refugee mothers, to attain GED at Lincoln Community Center and enroll in a two-year medical field program at South Central College in North Mankato.

Regularly mediate conflicts involving discrimination based on culture, race, religion, and language, at work places, housing facilities, schools, government service offices, and etc. Resolve these issues most of the time with simple education for the conflicting parties.

## **School Board Member (current)**

### **Mankato Area Public Schools**

School District 77 serves the greater Mankato area located in portions of Blue Earth, Nicollet and Le Sueur counties. The Board exercises administrative functions, powers of legislative character, and powers of quasi-judicial character. The board superintends and manages the schools of the school district; adopt rules for their organization, government, and instruction; and prescribe textbooks and courses of study, and make and authorize contracts. The school board has the general charge of the business of the school district, its facilities and property, and of the interest of the schools. The board has the following duties among others:

- Provide by levy of tax, necessary funds for the conduct of schools, the payment of indebtedness, and all proper expenses of the district.
- Employ and contract necessary qualified teachers and discharge the same for cause.
- Provide services to promote the health of its pupils.
- Provide school buildings and erect needed buildings.
- Purchase, sell, and exchange school district property and equipment as deemed necessary by the school board for school purposes.
- Provide for payment of claims against the school district, and prosecute and defend actions by or against the school district, in all proper cases.
- Employ and discharge necessary employees and contract for other services.
- Provide for transportation of pupils to and from schools, as governed by statute.
- Procure insurance against liability of the school district, its officers and employees.

## **MSU Diversity Office Immigrant student/Community Outreach**

2012-2015

Served under Dean Henry Morris and coordinated efforts in assuring outreach to Immigrant students in campus, in Greater Mankato, and their families. These efforts included addressing cultural and social barriers for individual students, as well as arranging dinner/discussion every semester between Immigrant community/student leaders and Dean Henry Morris and other key leaders at MSU Institutional Diversity Office.

## **Consultant Linguist**

### **US Department of Defense**

#### **Washington DC**

Provided linguistic support to U.S troops overseas, taught cultural agility classes to military officers in the Army, Navy, Air force and Marines.

Provided geographical and cultural knowledge of different ethnic groups of East Africa, to support military operations and headquarters, and helped with proper decision making, implementing of policy and translated documents between languages for sound interaction with local systems.

## **EDUCATION**

DEGREE: Bachelor Degree

Major/minor: International Relations/Political Science  
Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN

## **CERTIFICATES/ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

Certificate of Appreciation for Support of Operation Restore Hope/US Department of the Army

2012 National Jefferson Award Recipient, a Nobel Prize for public service.

2010 Blandin Leadership Training cohort

Certificate of Appreciation for Supporting Operation Restore Hope

Certificate of Appreciation in serving Region Nine Development Commission 2012-2016

## **ADDITIONAL SKILLS**

Public/Community Service:

Former Commissioner for Region Nine Development Commission representing minorities. Cohort of Cultural Agility Collaborative (CAC) for Statewide Minnesota communities, current member of Mankato Public Safety Citizens Advisory Board, current member of Backpack Food Program Advisory Committee, current board member for Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS), member of Blue Earth County Child Protection Committee, Cofounder and board member/treasurer for Mankato Islamic Center, Cofounder and Director of African Family and Education Center, current member Council on American Islamic Relations Advisory Committee (CAIR), participated in Blandin Leadership Training for Rural Minnesota, served in MVAC Youth Council, Habitat for Humanity Family Selection Committee, Blue Earth County Corrections Advisory Board, former Consultant and Linguist for US Department of Defense during Operation Restore Hope and Continue Hope, to help bring peace and stability to Somali country and people, 2012 National Jefferson Award recipient " A Nobel Prize for Public Service",. Partner and cofounder of Multicultural Networking Lunch at MSU Mankato, member of Talent Fulfillment Task Force of Greater Mankato Growth, and Abdi's greatest passion in life is providing equal opportunity of Education for all children, to help them on their way to their God given potential.