ACH Network Advisory Board
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q. What is the ACH Network Advisory Board?

The ACH Network Advisory Board serves as a venue for senior executives from a balanced cross-section of corporations, fintechs and other technology providers to communicate directly with the Nacha Board of Directors. The ACH Network Advisory Board engages in dialogue with representatives of the Nacha Board and provides input and feedback on topics significant to the ACH Network and to those who use or support and enable the use of ACH payments by others.

Nacha has continually engaged diverse non-financial institution organizations through membership programs, industry outreach, and various groups and channels within Nacha rulemaking on the development of the ACH Network and the Nacha Operating Rules. The ACH Network Advisory Board is an integral part of this engagement.

Q. What value does strategic dialogue with the Nacha Board offer?

The Nacha Board of Directors provides strategic guidance for the ACH Network. Providing a venue for regular, direct dialogue between representatives of diverse non-financial constituencies and the NACHA Board helps to better inform the Board’s discussions about the future of ACH payments.

Q. Who may serve on the ACH Network Advisory Board?

Senior executives — from businesses of different sizes and types, associations that represent various types of users, and fintechs and technology providers that enable and support the use of ACH payments — who possess appropriate expertise to provide insight on relevant topics are encouraged to express interest.

Q. What is expected of an ACH Network Advisory Board representative?

An ACH Network Advisory Board representative is expected to be knowledgeable in the area(s) that he or she represents, appreciate developing dialogue and perspectives, and be able to reach out to others for input at times. While drawing from one’s own professional experience and expertise, a representative is called upon to bring the perspectives of a broader constituency of non-financial institution users or providers to dialogue with the Nacha Board.

ACH Network Advisory Board representatives self-select the areas of expertise in which they would like to contribute and be engaged as follows:
An ACH Network Advisory Board representative must be able to keep certain dialogue and materials confidential, and as such is expected to sign a non-disclosure agreement. Those expressing interest are also required to acknowledge that they have read and agree to abide by the Nacha Code of Conduct.

Q. What is the commitment in terms of meetings and length of service?

An ACH Network Advisory Board representative should be able to commit to a minimum of two years of service. The ACH Network Advisory Board will be organized into subject matter expert (SME) panels according to the preceding graphic. Representatives can be included in multiple SME panels as warranted by their backgrounds.

Nacha will engage the SME panels virtually as needed to better understand challenges and opportunities related to the ACH Network. This could include, for example, virtual meetings, conference calls, survey participation.

The ACH Network Advisory Board also convenes twice per year in conjunction with the Nacha Board meetings in March and November of each year. Nacha strives to structure the agendas for in-person meetings such that topics align with the SME panels — business payments, consumer payments, A/R, and A/P — in order to maximize the relevance and value to all attendees, and minimize time out of office. With this approach, an individual may or may not attend all in-person meetings in a calendar year.

Nacha funds travel expenses for in-person meetings held with representatives of the Nacha Board in accordance with its travel and expense reimbursement policies.
Q. What is the relationship between the ACH Network Advisory Board and other Nacha groups?

Nacha also maintains other advisory and volunteer groups that bring together diverse voices to inform decision making and activities in various areas. These groups play an integral role in shaping the ongoing development and use of the ACH Network.

In contrast, the Payments Innovation Alliance is a membership program supported by Nacha that brings together hundreds of diverse voices from across the payments ecosystem to engage in dialogue, education and information sharing, and collaboration on projects to help advance both the ACH Network and the global payments industry as a whole. While Nacha encourages membership in the Payments Innovation Alliance by those represented on the ACH Network Advisory Board, it is not a prerequisite.

Q. How are ACH Network Advisory Board representatives selected?

Nacha works with the Nacha Directors who serve as liaisons from the Payments Innovation Alliance to select individuals who collectively provide a composition that is representative of a broad range of non-financial institution voices. While volunteers are requested to serve on the ACH Network Advisory Board for a minimum of two years, Nacha may seek new participants from time-to-time to sustain continuity and diverse representation as aligned with strategic needs.

The ACH Network Advisory Board size is conducive to having a larger group of volunteers who are individually aligned with the specified areas of interest, and can be called upon to attend in-person meetings with agendas structured to engender meaningful and relevant conversations and outcomes.