



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: *Sawyer Stearns*

Board or Commission Name: *Seattle Disability Commission*

Position Title: *Member*

☐ Appointment ☒ Reappointment

***Term of Position:** *5/1/2026 to 4/30/2028*

☐ *Serving partial term (eligible for full terms thereafter)*

Appointing Authority: ☐ City Council ☒ Mayor ☐ Other: *Insert Appointing Authority*

City Council Confirmation Required? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Residential Neighborhood: *Northgate*

Appointee brief overview:

Sawyer obtained her Master's in 2023 at CWU. As a freshman in college, she sustained a spinal cord injury that left her quadriplegic. After her injury, she became much more engaged with the disability community and even had the opportunity to work at a Center for Independent Living as a Disability Specialist. This fueled her passion to advocate on a deeper level in disability policy after experiencing the inequity faced in the community and with the healthcare system. She recently completed a fellowship posted by Disability Belongs in the public policy and civic engagement department and has been looking for ways to continue supporting people with disabilities in our community. Sawyer hopes to contribute her skills and past experiences working with people with disabilities to better serve people with disabilities in Seattle and all of King County. Sawyer has been an active member on the commission since 2025 and is the current chair of the Advocacy & Representation Committee.

Appointing Authority Signature:

Date Signed: *6/24/26*

Appointing Authority Printed Name and Title:

*Katie B. Wilson
Mayor of Seattle*

Sawyer Stearns

Education

2016 High School Diploma

2017-2021 Bachelor of Science: Family and Child Life

2021-2023 Master of Science: Family and Child Life

Experience

Ambulatory Patient Support Coordinator October

2023-present

- Communicate with RN and providers to provide support and identify needs, resolve problems, escalate urgent requests, and provide administrative support to RN's

Disability Specialist at Central Washington Disability Resources

March 2021- June 2023

- Subject matter expert for people with disabilities
- Developed a Functional Assessment Service Team (FAST) to assess emergency shelters for accessibility and assist people with disabilities entering emergency shelters in maintaining independence.
- Designed and facilitated the PAS (Power, Action, and Systems) program that assists people with disabilities with bathroom modifications, ramps, grab bars, and yard work.
- Updated emergency plans to include a whole community approach

Child Life Practicum at Seattle Children's Hospital

June 2022-August 2022

- Completed a Child Life Practicum
- Observed a Child Life Specialist in practice with evidence-based and developmentally appropriate interventions to support patients.
- Enhanced knowledge in interventions and knowledge of day to day for Child Life

Teacher Aide at Early Childhood Learning Center

September 2020-March 2021

- Assist the teacher with children ages 8-12. Activities included art projects, sensory activities, snack time, outside time, and homework time.

Volunteer at Developmental Disabilities Preschool

September 2019- March 2020

- Assisted teachers with play time, snack time and other daily activities such as art and outdoor play.

Volunteer at Kadlec Regional Medical Center

June of 2018- June of 2019

Under supervision of a Child Life Specialist:

- Played games with patients in the pediatric unit.
- Cleaned and organized toys in the playroom
- Interacted with the siblings where I would play and supervise the siblings.

Mustang CIA

June-August 2016

- Collaborate with agencies locally to implement healthy life choices for teens.
- Organize workshops that focus on substance abuse prevention and provide a safe and fun alternative for teens.
- Learned about substance abuse prevention and resources in our local community.

Professional Committees

DDAC (Developmental Disability Advisory Committee)

PTAC (Public Transportation Advisory Committee)

CIEP (Coalition on Inclusive Emergency Preparedness Committee)

WA Cares Ambassador

SEATTLE DISABILITY COMMISSION

21 Members: Pursuant to SMC 3.14.920, all members subject to City Council confirmation, with 2-year terms except for the Get Engaged member who will serve a 1-year term pursuant to SMC 3.51.

- 8 City Council-appointed
- 9 Mayor-appointed
- 4 Other Appointing Authority-appointed:

Roster as of July 2026

Position Number	Position Title	Appointee Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	*Term Number	Appointed By
1	Member	Samiya Nasim	5/1/25	4/30/27	1	Mayor
2	Member	Marc G Côté	5/1/25	4/30/27	1	City Council
3	Member	Scot Nelson	5/1/25	4/30/27	1	Mayor
4	Member	VACANT	5/1/25	4/30/27	1	City Council
5	Member	VACANT	5/1/26	4/30/28	1	Mayor
6	Member	Daniel Ramier	5/1/26	4/30/28	1	City Council
7	Member	VACANT	5/1/26	4/30/28	1	Mayor
8	Member	Rashaad O'Neal	5/1/26	4/30/28	1	City Council
9	Member	Balvina E Cortez	5/1/26	4/30/28	1	City Council
10	Member	Julia Thompson	5/1/26	4/30/28	1	Mayor
11	Member	Naomi Snow	5/1/26	4/30/28	1	City Council
12	Member	Sawyer Stearns	5/1/26	4/30/28	1	Mayor
13	Member	Bianca Gallegos	11/1/24	10/31/26	1	City Council
14	Member	Zachary Dar	11/1/24	10/31/26	1	Mayor
15	Member	Jessica Jensen	11/1/24	10/31/26	1	City Council
16	Get Engaged	Charlie Nguyen	9/1/25	8/31/26	1	Mayor
17	Member	VACANT	5/1/25	4/30/27	1	Commission
18	Member	Linda W. Finkle	11/1/24	10/31/26	1	Mayor
19	Member	Shelby Dey	5/1/26	4/30/28	3	Commission
20	Member	VACANT	5/1/26	4/30/28	1	Commission
21	Member	VACANT	11/1/24	10/31/26	1	Commission

Self-identified diversity chart

Appointing Authority	Male	Female	Transgender	Non-Binary	N/A	Asian	Black/ African American	American Indian/ Alaska Native	White/ non-Hispanic	Hispanic/ Latinx	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multi-racial	N/A
Mayor	3	4				2			5					
Council	3	4							4	2				
Other		1							1					
Total	6	9				2			10	2				

City Council districts represented

Council District	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	N/A
Total	1	2	3	1	1	1	5	

**For most boards and commissions, the term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.*