



Role of a Steering Committee Member

Education Commission of the States is guided by the nation's education leaders. Each state, the District of Columbia and three U.S. territories are represented by seven commissioners who inform our work and share our resources with their peers. Commissioners typically include the governor, a legislator from the House and Senate, and four gubernatorial appointees, often including the chief state school officer and executive director of higher education. One commissioner from each state is appointed to serve on the Education Commission of the States Steering Committee.

Steering committee members are recognized as the leader of each state's delegation of the state's appointed commissioners. They work hand-in-hand with Education Commission of the States to ensure that annual state dues are included in the state's budget and to increase awareness of the services and support that can be provided to the state in regards to researching, reporting, counseling and convening.

Steering committee members serve a term of two years with the opportunity to serve additional terms if reappointed by the Nominating and Steering Committees. Steering committee members receive paid travel to attend business meetings, including the National Forum on Education Policy each summer and the annual Winter Commissioners Meeting held in December. Registration fees for this event are also waived for Steering Committee members.

Steering committee members play an active role in facilitating the two-way communication between states and Education Commission of the States. This is done by:

- Assisting in identifying and sharing key state education concerns and information needs of the state where Education Commission of the States resources can be most useful.
- Attending and voting on policy and procedures during the business sessions, held twice a year during the Winter Commissioners Meeting and the National Forum on Education Policy.
- Serving on standing and special committees as needed.
- Providing feedback on the usefulness of Education Commission of the States projects, events, resources and publications.
- Sharing Education Commission of the States resources to peers and colleagues and encouraging fellow state Education Commission of the States commissioners to attend events.
- Assisting in the collection of the annual state dues and ensuring the dues are in the state budget.
- Coordinating state visits by Education Commission of the States staff with key state education policy stakeholders.
- Coordinating collaboration among the state's appointed commissioners.