

Georgia State Profile

March 1, 2019

State profiles for the data visualization and 50-State Comparison on postsecondary governance structures summarize information about coordinating boards/agencies and governing boards, administrative/service agencies, advisory groups and membership organizations. The most in-depth information is provided for statewide and major postsecondary systemwide coordinating boards/agencies and governing boards.

Note: This resource does not include information related to setting tuition rates, administering funding formulas or allocating funds. The state profile information is based primarily on statutes, codes and state and postsecondary system board/agency policies. To the extent possible, Education Commission of the States reached out to state and system officials to verify our information.

State Overview

Georgia does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public higher education. The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia governs public four-year institutions, which do not have local governing boards. The State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia governs two-year technical institutions, which have advisory but not governing boards. The governing boards appoint the executive directors for the systems. Administrative offices for both systems implement board policies, oversee academic and operational programs, conduct research and data analysis, and provide services to their institutions. The Georgia Student Finance Commission administers financial aid programs and oversees student outreach and access programs related to postsecondary financial assistance.

Data Point	Description
Single Statewide Coordinating or Governing Board/Agency	
Single Statewide Coordinating Board (or Agency) or Governing Board for All Public Higher Education	No
Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards	
Entity Name	Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia



Data Point	Description
Entity Function	Governing
Scope of Authority	Systemwide
Legal Authority	Constitutional
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year
Primary Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Advise and/or provide recommendations to state policy and education leaders- Approve presidential hiring and/or compensation- Approve institutional missions- Develop master/strategic plans for state or system- Engage in statewide or system-wide policy planning- Govern systems and/or institutions- Recommend or approve establishing, merging or closing institutions- Review or approve facility/capital construction plans- Set faculty and personnel policies
Budget Role for Institutions	Approve and recommend
New Academic Program Role	Review and approve
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Governing board
Number of Board Members (Voting and Non-voting)	19
Number of Board Members Appointed, Serve Based on Role or Selected	19



Data Point	Description
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0
Board Member Composition and Selection	19 members appointed by governor with confirmation by Senate, including 1 member from each Congressional district and 5 at-large members.
Do Institutions Governed (or Coordinated) by a Postsecondary System Board have Individual Governing Boards?	No
Type of Institutions with Individual Governing Boards	Not applicable
Type of Institutions without Individual Governing Boards	Public four-year
Website	https://www.usg.edu/regents/
Citations	O.C.G.A. § 20-3-31 and 32 General Powers of Board of Regents and University System University System of Georgia Board of Regents Policy Manual
Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards	
Entity Name	State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia
Entity Function	Governing
Scope of Authority	Systemwide
Legal Authority	Statutory
Legal Authority Notes	The State Board of Technical College System of Georgia was created by executive order and has statutory authority.



Data Point	Description
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year
Primary Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Advise and/or provide recommendations to state policy and education leaders- Approve presidential hiring and/or compensation- Approve institutional missions- Develop and/or administer academic policies or programs (e.g., admissions, transfer)- Engage in statewide or systemwide policy planning- Govern systems and/or institutions- Promote or advocate for institutions- Recommend or approve establishing, merging or closing institutions- Review or approve facility/capital construction plans
Budget Role for Institutions	Approve and recommend
New Academic Program Role	Review and approve
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Governing board
Number of Board Members (Voting and Non-voting)	23
Number of Board Members Appointed, Serve Based on Role or Selected	23
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0



Data Point	Description
Board Member Composition and Selection	23 members appointed by governor with confirmation by Senate. Members include at least one from each Congressional district and 9 at-large members, and represent business, industry, or economic development.
Do Institutions Governed (or Coordinated) by a Postsecondary System Board have Individual Governing Boards?	No
Type of Institutions with Individual Governing Boards	Not applicable
Type of Institutions without Individual Governing Boards	Public two-year
Type of Institutions without Individual Governing Boards Notes	Georgia technical colleges have advisory but not governing boards.
Website	https://tcsg.edu/about-tcsg/state-board/
Citations	O.C.G.A. § 20-4-11 Powers of State Board of Technical College System of Georgia State Board of Technical College System of Georgia Policy: 2.1.3. State Board Responsibilities and Authority
Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards	
Entity Name	University System of Georgia System Office
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year
Website	https://www.usg.edu/



Data Point	Description
Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards	
Entity Name	Technical College System of Georgia System Office
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year
Website	https://tcsg.edu/about-tcsg/system-office-services/
Administrative and Advisory Entities	
Entity Name	Georgia Student Finance Commission
Entity Function	Financial aid agency
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year, public two-year and other (e.g., Independent/non-profit, proprietary, online or specialty)
Primary Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administer state financial aid programs and/or loans - Oversee programs for college outreach, access and/or success
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Not applicable
Website	https://gsfc.georgia.gov/
Citations	Ga. Code. Ann. § 20-3-230 et. seq.
Other Postsecondary System and Multi-Campus Institutional Boards	
Entity Name	Not applicable
Membership Organizations	



Data Point	Description
Entity Name	Georgia Independent College Association
Entity Function	Membership
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Independent/non-profit
Website	http://www.georgiacolleges.org/about/mission