Alabama 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

Alabama's Commission on Higher Education is a statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education and has oversight over other institutions. The affiliated administrative agency is charged with carrying out board policies and administering student financial aid, and state and federal academic programs. The agency also oversees research reports, data collection and analysis, and the State Authority Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). The coordinating board appoints the agency's executive director. Individual boards govern the University of Alabama System, the Alabama Community College System and other institutions.

Data Point	Description
Single Statewide Coordinating or Governing Board/Agency	
Single Statewide Coordinating Board (or Agency) or Governing Board for All Public Higher Education	Yes
Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards	
Entity Name	Alabama Commission on Higher Education
Entity Function	Coordinating
Scope of Authority	Statewide

Postsecondary
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

Data Point	Description
Legal Authority	Statutory
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	- Advise and/or provide recommendations to state policy and education leaders - Approve institutional missions - Conduct policy research and analysis - Develop master/strategic plans for state or system - Engage in statewide or systemwide policy planning - Review existing academic programs
Budget Role for Institutions	Review and recommend
Budget Role Notes	Budget recommendations are made by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education to the legislature through the Consolidated Budget Recommendation (CBR).
New Academic Program Role	Review and approve
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Coordinating board
Number of Board Members (Voting and Non-voting)	12
Number of Board Members Appointed, Serve Based on Role or Selected	12
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0

Data Point	Description
Board Member Composition and Selection	12 members with 10 appointed by governor; 1 appointed by lieutenant governor; and 1 appointed by Speaker of the House with advice and consent of Senate; 1 member appointed from each Congressional district and remaining members appointed from state at large, with no more than 2 of total members from same Congressional district. No members can be on other, specified education boards.
Do Institutions Governed (or Coordinated) by a Postsecondary System Board have Individual Governing Boards?	Not applicable
Type of Institutions with Individual Governing Boards	Not applicable
Type of Institutions without Individual Governing Boards	Not applicable
Website	http://www.ache.state.al.us/
Citations	Ala. Code §16-5-1, et seq.
Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards	
Entity Name	Alabama Commission on Higher Education (Agency)
Entity Function	Administrative/service
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)
Website	http://www.ache.state.al.us/

Data Point	Description
Administrative and Advisory Entities	
Entity Name	Not applicable
Other Postsecondary System and Multi-Campus Institutional Boards	
Entity Name	Board of Trustees for University of Alabama System
Entity Function	Governing
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year
Website	http://uasystem.edu/board-of-trustees/
Other Postsecondary System and Multi-Campus Institutional Boards	
Entity Name	Alabama Community College Board of Trustees
Entity Function	Governing
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year
Website	https://www.accs.cc/index.cfm/board-of-trustees/
Membership Organizations	
Entity Name	Alabama Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
Entity Function	Membership
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Independent/non-profit
Website	http://www.aaicu.net/