

Alaska State Profile

November 1, 2020

State profiles for the 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

The University of Alaska Board of Regents is a statewide governing board for the public four- and two-year higher education system and the institutions do not have local boards. The system office provides services, administers academic programs and conducts research, among other duties. The board appoints the president of the University of Alaska system. The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education is an administrative/service agency that provides centralized planning for postsecondary education and administers several programs, including financial aid. The commission is an agency of the executive branch and is overseen by a board, which appoints the executive director.

Data Point	Description
Single Statewide Coordinating Board/Agency or Governing Board and State Postsecondary Governance Models	
Single Statewide Coordinating Board (or Agency) or Governing Board for All Public Higher Education	Yes
State Postsecondary Governance Model	Single, statewide governing board



Data Point	Description
Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards	
Entity Name	University of Alaska Board of Regents
Entity Function	Governing
Scope of Authority	Statewide
Legal Authority	Statutory
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year and public two-year
Primary Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approve or administer bonds - Approve or oversee interstate compacts and reciprocity agreements (e.g., SARA, tuition agreements) - Approve campus presidential hiring and/or compensation - Approve institutional missions - Approve of or award degrees and credentials - Develop master/strategic plans for state or system - Develop and/or oversee accountability or performance measures - Engage in statewide or systemwide policy planning - Govern systems and/or institutions - Promote or advocate for institutions - Review or approve facility/capital construction plans - Set faculty and personnel policies
Primary Responsibilities Notes	The Board of Regents may determine and regulate courses of instruction with advice of the president. Board of Regents Policy Manual, 02.01 describes the administration of the system.
Budget Role for Institutions	Approve and recommend
New Academic Program Role	Review and approve



Data Point	Description
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Governing board
Number of Board Members (Voting and Non-voting)	11
Number of Board Members Appointed Based on Role or Selected	11
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0
Board Member Composition and Selection	11 members appointed by governor subject to confirmation by majority of legislature; 1 student member, whose name is submitted to governor for appointment.
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 and public two-year
Website	https://www.alaska.edu/bor/
Citations	Alaska Stat. Ann. § 14.40.170 Alaska Board of Regents Policy & University Regulation Manual Alaska Board of Regents Bylaws
Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards	
Entity Name	University of Alaska System Office



Data Point	Description
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year and public two-year
Website	https://www.alaska.edu/alaska/
Administrative and Advisory Entities	
Entity Name	Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
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)
Primary Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administer state financial aid programs and/or loans - Advise and/or provide recommendations to state policy and education leaders - Approve or oversee interstate compacts and reciprocity agreements (e.g., SARA, tuition agreements) - Engage in statewide or systemwide policy planning - License or approve/authorize specified institutions - Provide information and data services for state/systems/institutions
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Agency board or agency committee
General Notes	The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education is an administrative agency of the executive branch of state government and is overseen by a board.
Website	https://acpe.alaska.gov/
Citations	Alaska Stat. Ann. § 14.42.010



Data Point	Description
Other Postsecondary System and Multi-Campus Institutional Boards	
Entity Name	Not applicable
Membership Organizations	
Entity Name	Not applicable