

Arizona 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 Arizona Board of Regents is a governing board for the public four-year institutions and appoints the executive director of the system. The board of regents' system office provides services and programs and conducts research, among other duties. The Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education is an administrative/service agency that, among other roles, provides a forum for all higher education sectors to discuss issues and administers several programs, including college outreach and financial aid. The agency is overseen by a commission, which appoints the executive director upon approval of the governor. Arizona's community colleges are locally governed and not part of a system.

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	No
State Postsecondary Governance Model	One or more major, systemwide coordinating or governing board and Administrative/service agency
Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards	
Entity Name	Arizona Board of Regents



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 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 - Determine and/or regulate courses of study - Develop and/or administer academic policies or programs (e.g., admissions, transfer) - Develop master/strategic plans for state or system - Develop and/or oversee accountability or performance measures - Engage in statewide or systemwide policy planning - Ensure system/institutional efficiencies - Ensure academic program and/or institutional quality - Govern systems and/or institutions - Monitor or evaluate system/institutional effectiveness - Oversee residency requirements for tuition purposes - Promote or advocate for 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



Data Point	Description
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)	12
Number of Board Members Appointed Based on Role or Selected	12
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0
Board Member Composition and Selection	12 members with 10 appointed by governor, including 2 students (one non-voting). Governor and superintendent of public instruction serve as voting ex-officio 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.azregents.edu/
Citations	Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-1621-26 and § Arizona Board of Regents Policy Manual



Data Point	Description
Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards	
Entity Name	Arizona Board of Regents System Office
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year
Website	https://www.azregents.edu/
Administrative and Advisory Entities	
Entity Name	Arizona Commission for 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 - Conduct policy research and analysis - Oversee programs for college outreach, access and/or success - Provide forum to discuss postsecondary issues - Provide information and data services for state/systems/institutions
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Not applicable
General Notes	Arizona's Commission for Postsecondary Education provides services for public four- and two-year institutions, private colleges and universities, and vocational and trade schools
Website	https://highered.az.gov/
Citations	Ariz. Revised Stat. 15-1851
Other Postsecondary System and Multi-Campus Institutional Boards	



Data Point	Description
Entity Name	Not applicable
Membership Organizations	
Entity Name	Arizona Community College Coordinating Council
Entity Function	Membership
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year
Website	https://arizonacommunitycolleges.org/