

## California 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

California does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public higher education. The University of California Board of Regents and California State University Board of Trustees govern the public four-year institutions and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges governs the two-year institutions. Each governing board appoints the executive director for their system. Administrative offices for all three systems implement board policies, oversee academic and operational programs, and provide services to institutions. The California Student Aid Commission administers financial aid programs, provides research and data reports, and provides professional development and training. In August 2019, the governor created the Governor’s Council for Post-Secondary Education, comprising the leaders of the three systems as well as other key stakeholders, to serve as an independent consultative resource on high-priority issues and to make recommendations for action.

Data Point	Description
<b>Single Statewide Coordinating Board/Agency or Governing Board and State Postsecondary Governance Models</b>	
Single Statewide Coordinating Board (or Agency) or Governing Board for All Public Higher Education	No



Data Point	Description
State Postsecondary Governance Model	One or more major, systemwide coordinating or governing board
<b>Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards</b>	
Entity Name	Regents of the University of California
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"> <li>- Approve campus presidential hiring and/or compensation</li> <li>- Approve of or award degrees and credentials</li> <li>- Develop and/or administer academic policies or programs (e.g., admissions, transfer)</li> <li>- Engage in statewide or systemwide policy planning</li> <li>- Ensure system/institutional efficiencies</li> <li>- Ensure academic program and/or institutional quality</li> <li>- Govern systems and/or institutions</li> <li>- Review or approve facility/capital construction plans</li> <li>- Set faculty and personnel policies</li> </ul>
Budget Role for Institutions	Approve and recommend
New Academic Program Role	Review and approve
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Governing board



Data Point	Description
Number of Board Members (Voting and Non-voting)	26
Number of Board Members Appointed Based on Role or Selected	26
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0
Board Member Composition and Selection	26 members with 18 appointed by governor and approved by the Senate; 1 student member appointed by the board and 7 ex-officio members, including: governor, lieutenant governor, assembly speaker, superintendent of public instruction, president and vice president of University’s alumni associations and president of the University.
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	<a href="http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/index.html">http://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/index.html</a>
Citations	California Constitution, Article IX, Section 9  Cal. Educ. Code § 92000 - 92988  Regents of the University of California Bylaws
<b>Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards</b>	



Data Point	Description
Entity Name	California State University Board of Trustees
Entity Function	Governing
Scope of Authority	Systemwide
Legal Authority	Statutory
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year
Primary Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advise and/or provide recommendations to state policy and education leaders</li> <li>- Approve campus presidential hiring and/or compensation</li> <li>- Develop and/or administer academic policies or programs (e.g., admissions, transfer)</li> <li>- Develop master/strategic plans for state or system</li> <li>- Engage in statewide or systemwide policy planning</li> <li>- Ensure system/institutional efficiencies</li> <li>- Ensure academic program and/or institutional quality</li> <li>- Govern systems and/or institutions</li> <li>- Monitor or evaluate system/institutional effectiveness</li> <li>- Promote or advocate for institutions</li> <li>- Recommend or approve establishing, merging or closing institutions</li> <li>- Review existing academic programs</li> <li>- Review or Approve facility/capital construction plans</li> <li>- Set faculty and personnel policies</li> </ul>
Budget Role for Institutions	Approve and recommend
New Academic Program Role	Review and approve
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Governing board



Data Point	Description
Number of Board Members (Voting and Non-voting)	25
Number of Board Members Appointed Based on Role or Selected	20
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0
Board Member Composition and Selection	25 members (24 voting, one non-voting) with 16 appointed by governor and confirmed by Senate; governor also appoints 1 faculty and 2 student (one non-voting) members; CSU Statewide Alumni Council appoints 1 alumni trustee; 5 ex-officio members, including governor, lieutenant governor, Assembly Speaker, state superintendent of public instruction and chancellor.
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	<a href="https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/board-of-trustees">https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/board-of-trustees</a>
Citations	Cal. Educ. Code § 89000 - 90520
<b>Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards</b>	
Entity Name	Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges
Entity Function	Governing



Data Point	Description
Scope of Authority	Systemwide
Legal Authority	Statutory
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year
Primary Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Administer federal programs</li> <li>- Conduct policy research and analysis</li> <li>- Develop and/or oversee accountability or performance measures</li> <li>- Monitor or evaluate system/institutional effectiveness</li> <li>- Promote or advocate for institutions</li> <li>- Provide information and data services for state/systems/institutions</li> </ul>
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)	18
Number of Board Members Appointed Based on Role or Selected	18
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0



Data Point	Description
Board Member Composition and Selection	18 members with 12 appointed by governor with advice and consent of two-thirds of Senate, and 2 must be current or former elected members of local community college district governing boards; the lieutenant governor who is a voting member; 2 student members (one non-voting) from names submitted to governor for appointment; 2 voting faculty members from a community college; 1 voting classified employee of community colleges.
Do Institutions Governed (or Coordinated) by a Postsecondary System Board have Individual Governing Boards?	Yes
Type of Institutions with Individual Governing Boards	Public two-year
Type of Institutions with Individual Governing Boards Notes	Community college districts have locally-elected governing boards.
Type of Institutions without Individual Governing Boards	Not applicable
Website	<a href="http://www.cccco.edu/">http://www.cccco.edu/</a>
Citations	Cal. Educ. Code § 70900 - 88922
<b>Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards</b>	
Entity Name	University of California System Office
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year
Website	<a href="https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/uc-system">https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/uc-system</a>



Data Point	Description
<b>Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards</b>	
Entity Name	California State University System Office
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year
Website	<a href="https://www2.calstate.edu/">https://www2.calstate.edu/</a>
<b>Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards</b>	
Entity Name	California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year
Website	<a href="http://www.cccco.edu/">http://www.cccco.edu/</a>
<b>Administrative and Advisory Entities</b>	
Entity Name	California Student Aid 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"> <li>- Administer state financial aid programs and/or loans</li> <li>- Advise and/or provide recommendations to state policy and education leaders</li> </ul>





Data Point	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct policy research and analysis</li> <li>- Engage in statewide or systemwide policy planning</li> <li>- Provide forum to discuss postsecondary issues</li> <li>- Provide information and data services for state/systems/institutions</li> <li>- Provide professional development and/or training</li> </ul>
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Not applicable
Website	<a href="http://www.csac.ca.gov/">http://www.csac.ca.gov/</a>
Citations	Cal. Educ. Code § 69510 - 69519; § 69400 - 70110
<b>Other Postsecondary System and Multi-Campus Institutional Boards</b>	
Entity Name	Not applicable
<b>Membership Organizations</b>	
Entity Name	Community College League of California
Entity Function	Membership
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year
Website	<a href="http://www.ccleague.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1">http://www.ccleague.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1</a>
<b>Membership Organizations</b>	
Entity Name	Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
Entity Function	Membership



Data Point	Description
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Independent/non-profit
Website	<a href="http://www.aiccu.edu/">http://www.aiccu.edu/</a>