

# Education Commission of the States Names Wyoming Governor as 2024-25 Chair-Elect

*Gov. Mark Gordon to accept leadership role on ECS' Executive Committee in July 2025; to announce priority education initiative.*

*Gov. Gordon will follow current Chair Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly, who has led work to expand access to education opportunities for those impacted by the justice system.*

DENVER, Colo. (December 19, 2024) — Wyoming Gov. Mark Gordon has been named the next Chair of Education Commission of the States (ECS), a national nonpartisan organization that informs, counsels and convenes education leaders to create effective state policy. Gov. Gordon's role on the organization's Executive Committee will take effect in July 2025.

"Now more than ever, as the incoming administration emphasizes the power of states when it comes to education, it will be critical to ensure state education leaders and policymakers have reliable, nonpartisan information and resources, as well as opportunities to share insights to inform their decision making" said ECS President José Muñoz. "Gov. Gordon has prioritized innovation in education throughout his term as governor. We're excited to welcome Gov. Gordon to our leadership team as we continue our important work to support states."

"I'm truly excited and deeply honored to be selected as the Chair of ECS," Gov. Gordon said in a [video](#) acceptance message shared at the organization's Winter Commissioners Meeting. "I look forward ... to building on ECS' proud legacy of fostering collaboration and impact. [Together], we can ensure that every state is equipped with the tools and resources to meet the evolving needs of students and communities."

Every two years, ECS' Nominating Committee reviews candidates and votes on the next Chair-elect — alternating between Democratic and Republican governors each term. Gordon will assume the leadership role during the organization's annual National Forum on Education Policy, July 9-11, 2025, in Salt Lake City. He will also have the opportunity to select a priority initiative of his choosing.

Gordon will follow Democratic Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly who has served as Chair since 2023. Gov. Kelly's initiative, [Education Access for Justice-Impacted Individuals](#), supports states and policymakers to transform their criminal justice systems to prepare individuals to successfully reintegrate into society with a high-quality education, employment prospects and the skills needed to fully participate in their communities.

“We’re proud of Gov. Kelly’s leadership and the opportunity to elevate ways states can expand postsecondary and workforce opportunities for people impacted by the justice system,” Muñoz added. “We’re grateful to both governors for their commitment to advancing state education policy.”

### **About Education Commission of the States**

Education Commission of the States (ECS) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that serves as a partner to state policymakers by providing personalized support and opportunities to learn from one another. Through their resources and services, policymakers gain the insight and experience needed to create effective education policy. Learn more at [ecs.org](https://ecs.org).