Commissioners provide leadership for Education Commission of the States, as well as for their own states’ education agendas.

Education Commission of the States serves as an extended policy team to all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories. Since its creation by governors in 1965 as a way for states to join together for the improvement of education, the nation’s top education leaders have guided the work of Education Commission of the States.

Each state appoints seven Commissioners. They typically include the governor, a legislator from both the House and Senate, and four gubernatorial appointees, who are often the chief state school officer, a higher education leader, a state board member and/or other state-level education policymakers.

### 2019 COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATION

Commissioners serve a two-year term with the opportunity to serve additional terms if reappointed by the nominating body in their state. Commissioners play an active role in facilitating the two-way communication between states and Education Commission of the States. Commissioners accomplish this by:

- Assisting in identifying and sharing key state policy issues with Education Commission of the States.
- Sharing Education Commission of the States’ resources with colleagues and increasing awareness of Education Commission of the States’ research, reports, counseling and convenings.
- Encouraging engagement among fellow Commissioners in their state.
- Attending and participating in Commissioners’ business sessions held twice a year during the Winter Commissioners Meeting (late fall) and the National Forum on Education Policy (early summer).