

## West Virginia State Profile

March 1, 2019

State profiles for the data visualization and 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

West Virginia does not have a single, statewide coordinating or governing board for postsecondary education. The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission is the coordinating board for the state’s four-year institutions, which have local boards, and appoints the agency’s chancellor. The agency is responsible for administering academic and financial aid programs, conducting research and analysis, providing data services and reports, and managing capital projects, among other duties. Legislation enacted in 2017 shifted certain authorities from the commission to the institutional governing boards for selected universities. West Virginia’s Council for Community and Technical College Education serves as a coordinating board for two-year institutions, which are governed by local boards, and appoints the chancellor. The affiliated agency office produces data and special reports, administers academic and workforce programs, and provides various support services to campuses.

Data Point	Description
<b>Single Statewide Coordinating or Governing Board/Agency</b>	
Single Statewide Coordinating Board (or Agency) or Governing Board for All Public Higher Education	No
<b>Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards</b>	
Entity Name	West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission



Data Point	Description
Entity Function	Coordinating
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>- Approve or administer bonds</li> <li>- Approve or oversee interstate compacts and reciprocity agreements (e.g., SARA, tuition agreements)</li> <li>- Approve 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>- Develop master/strategic plans for state or system</li> <li>- Ensure academic program and/or institutional quality</li> <li>- License or approve/authorize specified institutions</li> <li>- Monitor or evaluate system/institutional effectiveness</li> <li>- Promote or advocate for 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>
Primary Responsibilities Notes	The Higher Education Policy Commission's authority does not apply to certain responsibilities of governing boards of the "exempted" institutions, including West Virginia University, Marshall University and the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. The commission is charged with developing system and institutional personnel policies related to insurance and liability.
Budget Role for Institutions	Approve and recommend
New Academic Program Role	Review and approve



Data Point	Description
Academic Program Role Notes	The Higher Education Policy Commission reviews and approves new academic programs for most of the institutions under its jurisdiction using their mission as a template. For the “exempted” institutions, the Commission’s authority is limited to programs that are proposed to be offered at a new location not presently served by that institution.
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Coordinating board
Number of Board Members (Voting and Non-voting)	10
Number of Board Members Appointed, Serve Based on Role or Selected	10
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0
Board Member Composition and Selection	10 members with 4 at-large members and 3 at-large members designated as higher education representatives appointed by governor with advice and consent of Senate; state superintendent of schools and chair of the Council for Community and Technical Education serve as ex-officio members. Of the appointed members, no more than 4 may belong to same political party and at least 2 must represent each Congressional district. Appointed members must not be officers, employees or members of the council or an advisory board of any state college or university or exempted school. Note: The secretary of arts and education previously served as an ex-officio member; however, the legislature eliminated the office and a replacement has not been designated.
Do Institutions Governed (or Coordinated) by a Postsecondary System Board have Individual Governing Boards?	Yes



Data Point	Description
Type of Institutions with Individual Governing Boards	Public four-year
Type of Institutions without Individual Governing Boards	Not applicable
Website	<a href="http://www.wvhepc.edu/">http://www.wvhepc.edu/</a>
Citations	W. Va. Code Ann. §18B-1B  West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission Rules & Policies
<b>Statewide and Major Systemwide Coordinating Boards (or Agency) or Governing Boards</b>	
Entity Name	West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education
Entity Function	Coordinating
Scope of Authority	Systemwide
Legal Authority	Statutory
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year



Data Point	Description
Primary Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Approve or administer bonds</li> <li>- Approve or oversee interstate compacts and reciprocity agreements (e.g., SARA, tuition agreements)</li> <li>- Approve 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>- Develop master/strategic plans for state or system</li> <li>- Ensure academic program and/or institutional quality</li> <li>- License or approve/authorize specified institutions</li> <li>- Monitor or evaluate system/institutional effectiveness</li> <li>- Promote or advocate for 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>
Primary Responsibilities Notes	The council is charged with developing system and institutional personnel policies related to insurance and liability.
Budget Role for Institutions	Approve and recommend
New Academic Program Role	Review and approve
Appointing/Hiring Authority of Higher Education Executive Officer	Coordinating board
Number of Board Members (Voting and Non-voting)	13
Number of Board Members Appointed, Serve Based on Role or Selected	13
Number of Board Members Elected through General Election	0



Data Point	Description
Board Member Composition and Selection	13 members with 8 appointed by governor with advice and consent of Senate and representing each community and technical college district. Ex-officio voting members include: chair of West Virginia workforce investment council, executive director of West Virginia Development Office, and president of West Virginia AFL-CIO; ex-officio non-voting members include chair of Higher Education Policy Commission and department of education's assistant superintendent for technical and adult education. Appointed members must not be officers, employees or members of the council or an advisory board of any state college or university.
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 without Individual Governing Boards	Not applicable
Website	<a href="http://wvctcs.org/">http://wvctcs.org/</a>
Citations	W. Va. Code Ann. §18B-2B  West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education Rules & Policies
<b>Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards</b>	
Entity Name	West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (Agency)
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public four-year



Data Point	Description
Website	<a href="http://www.wvhepc.edu/">http://www.wvhepc.edu/</a>
<b>Agencies and System Offices Affiliated with Coordinating and Governing Boards</b>	
Entity Name	West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education (Agency)
Entity Function	Administrative/service
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Public two-year
Website	<a href="http://wvctcs.org/">http://wvctcs.org/</a>
<b>Administrative and Advisory Entities</b>	
Entity Name	Not applicable
<b>Other Postsecondary System and Multi-Campus Institutional Boards</b>	
Entity Name	Not applicable
<b>Membership Organizations</b>	
Entity Name	West Virginia's Independent Colleges and Universities, Inc.
Entity Function	Membership
Type of Institutions Coordinated, Governed, Represented or Served by Entity	Independent/non-profit
Website	<a href="http://www.wvicu.org/">http://www.wvicu.org/</a>