

Postsecondary Governance Structures

State Overviews

November 2020

This resource provides a comprehensive summary of the various entities that comprise postsecondary governance ecosystems in each state and the District of Columbia. It also:

- Focuses on and provides in-depth information about statewide coordinating boards/agencies and governing boards. If statewide boards do not exist, then information is provided for major systemwide coordinating and governing boards.
- Includes general information about other state higher education entities, such as administrative/service offices, financial aid offices and advisory boards.
- Lists other postsecondary systemwide governing boards, most multi-campus institutional boards and membership organizations.

The term public two-year institutions also may include technical colleges. 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 its information.

View other data points in the 50-State Comparison: State Postsecondary Governance Structures resource [here](#).

STATE	OVERVIEW
Alabama	Alabama’s Commission on Higher Education is a statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education and has oversight over other institutions. The affiliated administrative agency is charged with carrying out board policies and administering student financial aid, and state and federal academic programs. The agency also oversees research reports, data collection and analysis, and the State Authority Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). The coordinating board appoints the agency’s executive director. Individual boards govern the University of Alabama System, the Alabama Community College System and other institutions.
Alaska	The University of Alaska Board of Regents is a statewide governing board for the public four- and two-year higher education system and the institutions do not have local boards. The system office provides services, administers academic programs and conducts research, among other duties. The board appoints the president of the University of Alaska system. The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education is an administrative/service agency that provides centralized planning for postsecondary education and administers several programs, including financial aid. The commission is an agency of the executive branch and is overseen by a board, which appoints the executive director.
Arizona	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.

STATE	OVERVIEW
Arkansas	<p>The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board is a statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education. The Department of Education – Division of Higher Education is the administrative office charged with carrying out the board’s policies and overseeing federal, academic and student financial aid programs, conducting research and analysis, collecting and disseminating data, and publishing higher education reports. Legislation enacted in 2019 merged the K-12 and higher education departments and other offices into one agency and created a secretary of education position. The higher education division director reports to the secretary of education and is appointed by the coordinating board with input from the Presidents Council and confirmed by the governor. Individual boards govern Arkansas State University, the University of Arkansas and other institutions.</p>
California	<p>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.</p>
Colorado	<p>The Colorado Commission on Higher Education is a statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education and oversees independent degree-granting institution authorization. Colorado’s Department of Higher Education is the administrative agency charged with carrying out the board’s policies and overseeing various programs, including student financial aid and credit transfer, and providing data and information services. The department’s executive director is appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate. Individual boards, with members appointed by the governor, govern the campuses of Colorado State University; while an elected board governs the University of Colorado campuses. The State Board of Community Colleges and Occupational Education governs the two-year colleges, except for two local district colleges.</p>
Connecticut	<p>Connecticut does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public higher education. The Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education governs a system of state colleges, community colleges and a public online college, which do not have local boards. The governing board appoints the president of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system. The system office implements the board’s policies, oversees academic and operational programs, and provides services to the institutions. The board of regents adopted the Students First Plan in June 2018 and reaffirmed the plan in December 2019 to consolidate the system’s 12 community colleges into a single, accredited institution; however, the plan is not expected to be fully implemented until 2023-24. A separate board governs the University of Connecticut, which also has an administrative arm. The Connecticut Office of Higher Education is an administrative/service agency that, among other responsibilities, provides data and information services and administers student financial aid. The governor appoints the executive director of the agency.</p>
Delaware	<p>The Delaware Higher Education Office is an administrative and service agency located in the state department of education. An agency committee selects the executive director of the office. The office oversees and administers several programs, including college readiness and student financial aid, provides information and data services for institutions, and licenses and authorizes institutions, among other duties. Delaware has several two- and four-year public institutions with local boards, as well as private colleges, but no systems or multi-campus institutions.</p>
District of Columbia	<p>The District of Columbia’s Office of the State Superintendent of Education-- Postsecondary and Career Education Division supports college outreach and access programs, administers career education and student financial aid programs, and provides data and information services. The state superintendent appoints the division’s assistant superintendent. The division oversees the Higher Education Licensure Commission, which is a mayoral-appointed authority that licenses public and private institutions, oversees private institutions and advises the mayor and city council on postsecondary issues. The Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia appoints the president and governs the university, which offers associate’s, bachelor’s and master’s degrees and workplace development services. The university is comprised of a community college, several schools and colleges offering bachelor’s programs, and a law school.</p>

STATE	OVERVIEW
Florida	<p>Florida does not have a single statewide coordinating or governing board for public postsecondary education. The State University System of Florida Board of Governors governs the public four-year institutions, which also have local, institutional governing boards. The system office administers programs and provides services for the institutions. Members of the board of governors appoint the system chancellor. The Florida State Board of Education serves as a governing board for the public community colleges, known as state colleges, as part of the K-20 governance structure. The department of education's Division of Florida Colleges serves an administrative capacity for the Florida College System with responsibilities for academic programs, data and reporting, and financial policy, among others. Florida's College System consists of the state/community colleges, which are governed by local institutional boards and state statute, and the commissioner of education appoints the system chancellor. The department of education's Office of Student Financial Assistance administers financial aid programs.</p>
Georgia	<p>Georgia does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public higher education. The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia governs public four-year and two-year institutions, which do not have local governing boards. The State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia governs two-year technical institutions, which have advisory but not governing boards. The governing boards appoint the executive directors for the systems. Administrative offices for both systems implement board policies, oversee academic and operational programs, conduct research and data analysis, and provide services to their institutions. The Georgia Student Finance Commission administers financial aid programs and oversees student outreach and access programs related to postsecondary financial assistance.</p>
Hawaii	<p>The Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii is a statewide governing board for the public four- and two-year higher education institutions, which do not have local boards. The system office administers academic programs, offers support services, provides information and data analysis, and conducts research, among other duties. The board appoints the president of the University of Hawaii system. Individual campuses are responsible for administering student financial aid.</p>
Idaho	<p>Idaho's State Board of Education governs the K-12 and public postsecondary education system, which consists of three universities and a state college. Community colleges operate in accordance with policies established by their local board of trustees, except for state appropriations requests, academic and career and technical program offerings and other matters governed by the state board. The superintendent of public instruction is elected and serves on the state board as a voting ex-officio member. The executive director is appointed by the state board of education and serves as a member of the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association. The Office of the State Board of Education implements board policies and oversees the public higher education institutions. Idaho's Division of Career and Technical Education is responsible for the secondary, postsecondary, and adult career and technical programs for public school districts and technical colleges.</p>
Illinois	<p>The Illinois Board of Higher Education is a statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education and oversees independent degree-granting institution authorization. The affiliated administrative agency is charged with carrying out the board's policies, overseeing various programs, and providing data and information services, among other responsibilities. The coordinating board appoints the agency's executive director. The Illinois Student Assistance Commission administers student financial aid, administers federal programs, conducts policy research, and supports student outreach programs related to financial assistance. Individual governing boards oversee the University of Illinois and the Southern Illinois University systems. The Illinois Community College Board serves as a coordinating board for public two-year institutions, which also have individual governing boards. Governing boards oversee other public institutions.</p>
Indiana	<p>The Indiana Commission on Higher Education is a statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education and works with independent institutions. The affiliated administrative agency is charged with carrying out the board's policies and overseeing various programs, including credit transfer and student financial aid, conducts research analysis and produces reports on postsecondary topics. The coordinating board appoints the commission's executive director. Indiana has at least three multi-campus institutions with governing boards, including the University of Indiana, Purdue University and Ivy Tech Community College.</p>

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Iowa	Iowa does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public higher education. The Iowa Board of Regents governs public four-year institutions, which do not have local boards, and appoints the system's executive director. The system office implements board policies, administers academic programs, produces reports on higher education topics, and provides services to the institutions. The Iowa State Board of Education exercises certain governing authority over the community colleges, which also are governed by local boards. The state board of education accredits community colleges based on criteria established in state statute and adopts policies through administrative rules for community colleges, among other responsibilities. Divisions within the state department of education administer academic and workforce programs, approve new academic programs and provide data services for community colleges. The Iowa College Student Aid Commission is overseen by a board and administers financial aid programs, conducts research and analysis, and oversees student outreach and access programs for financial assistance.
Kansas	The Kansas Board of Regents serves as the governing board for the state's six universities and the coordinating board for the state's other 32 public higher education institutions, including state universities, a municipal university, community colleges and technical colleges. In addition, the board authorizes private proprietary schools to operate in Kansas. The board appoints the executive director. The board's system office provides various services and administers programs, including student financial aid and career and technical education. While some of the state universities governed by the Board of Regents have multiple campuses, the institutions do not have local governing boards. However, the institutions coordinated by the Regents are also governed by local boards.
Kentucky	Kentucky's Council on Postsecondary Education is the statewide coordinating board for public higher education and oversees licensing and authorization of non-public institutions. The affiliated administrative agency is charged with carrying out the board's policies and overseeing the statewide virtual library and various programs, including credit transfer and adult education. The agency also conducts research and analysis and provides data services. The coordinating board appoints the council's president. A separate state agency, the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, administers student financial aid programs. Kentucky's universities are governed by individual boards. A governing board oversees the Kentucky Community and Technical College system and local advisory boards are affiliated with the individual campuses.
Louisiana	The Louisiana Board of Regents is the statewide coordinating board for public higher education. The affiliated administrative agency is charged with carrying out the board's policies, overseeing state and federal programs, conducting research and providing data and information services. The coordinating board appoints the agency's executive director. The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance operates as part of the Regents and administers financial aid programs. Governing boards oversee the University of Louisiana system and the Louisiana Community and Technical College system and the Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College's multiple campuses.
Maine	Maine does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public postsecondary education. The University of Maine System Board of Trustees governs public four-year institutions and the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees governs two-year institutions. The governing boards appoint the system's chancellor and president, respectively. Administrative offices for both systems implement board policies, oversee academic and operational programs, and provide services to their institutions, which do not have local governing boards. The Finance Authority of Maine administers financial aid programs and supports professional development and student outreach programs for postsecondary financial assistance. A higher education office in the Maine State Department of Education works with the state board of education and education commissioner to review requests for degree-granting authority, oversee the licensing of proprietary and correspondence schools, and administer the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA).
Maryland	Maryland's Higher Education Commission serves as the statewide coordinating board and is responsible for establishing policies for public and private institutions and for-profit career schools. The affiliated administrative agency is charged with carrying out the board's policies, overseeing state and federal programs, administering student financial aid, and providing data and information services, among other responsibilities. The governor appoints the secretary of higher education – the agency's executive director – from a list of three names submitted by the coordinating board and who serves at pleasure of the commission. Governing boards oversee the University of Maryland system and other institutions. Maryland's community colleges are not part of a system and are governed by local boards.

STATE	OVERVIEW
Massachusetts	<p>The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education is the statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education. The affiliated administrative agency is charged with implementing the board's policies and overseeing various programs, including student financial aid, program approval for both public and private higher education institutions, and college completion initiatives. The board appoints the commissioner of higher education, subject to the approval of Massachusetts' Secretary of Education. The Massachusetts public higher education system consists of three segments, which includes community colleges, state universities, and the campuses of the University of Massachusetts (UMass). Community colleges and state universities have their own board of trustees, while the UMass campuses are overseen by the UMass Board of Trustees. The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education has coordinating and some governing authority over all three segments.</p>
Michigan	<p>Michigan does not have a single, statewide or major systemwide coordinating board/agency or governing board. Michigan also does not have an administrative/service agency or division dedicated to postsecondary education; however, a couple state agencies oversee specific postsecondary functions. An elected board governs the University of Michigan system's three campuses. Statewide elected governing boards also oversee Michigan State University and Wayne State University, and the governor appoints the governing boards of the other state universities. The state's community colleges are governed by locally elected boards. The Michigan State Budget Office serves as an administrative entity for data collection and various oversight functions of public universities and community colleges. Michigan's Student Financial Aid Services Bureau is located within the department of treasury and administers financial aid programs. Several membership organizations play key roles in advocating, intra-sector coordinating, data reporting and analysis, and providing services for various types of institutions. The Michigan Association of State Universities (MASU) operates a peer review system for all new academic programs and is a member agency of the SHEEO association. MASU and the Michigan Community College Association and the Michigan Independent Colleges and Universities work jointly on various academic policy issues, including credit transfer, student success initiatives and increasing state attainment.</p>
Minnesota	<p>Minnesota does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public postsecondary education. Minnesota's Office of Higher Education is an administrative and service agency that oversees academic programs, provides data and information services, and administers student financial aid programs. The governor appoints the office's executive director with the Senate's advice and consent. The Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities governs a system of state colleges and universities and appoints the chancellor. The University of Minnesota Board of Regents governs the system's campuses and appoints the president. Both system offices implement board policies, administer programs and provide services to the campuses, which do not have local governing boards.</p>
Mississippi	<p>Mississippi does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public postsecondary education. The Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Higher Education Institutions governs the system of public four-year institutions and appoints the commissioner. The system office implements board policies, administers various programs and provides services to the institutions, which do not have local governing boards. The Mississippi Community College Board is a coordinating board for two-year institutions and appoints the executive director. The affiliated administrative office carries out board policies, administers programs, and provides data and research services to the institutions, which are governed by local boards. The Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board administers financial aid programs and provides outreach and access programs related to financial support for students.</p>
Missouri	<p>Missouri's Coordinating Board for Higher Education is the statewide coordinating board for public education and oversees some aspects of independent institutions. The Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development is the administrative agency for the board and carries out policies, oversees state and federal programs, administers financial aid, collects and analyzes data, and provides other services. Executive Orders issued in 2019 transferred department of economic development staff to the department of higher education and renamed the latter. The coordinating board appoints the executive director. The Board of Curators of the University of Missouri is the governing board for the multiple campuses, and local boards govern other institutions. Missouri's two-year colleges are not part of a system and are governed by local boards.</p>
Montana	<p>The Montana Board of Regents for Higher Education serves as the governing board for four- and two-year institutions within the system and as a coordinating board for community colleges. The board appoints the commissioner of higher education. The board's system office administers state and federal programs, conducts policy research, collects and analyzes data, administers student financial aid programs and provides other services to the institutions. While Montana's universities do not have local governing boards, the community colleges are governed by boards.</p>

STATE	OVERVIEW
Nebraska	Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education is the statewide coordinating board for public higher education and appoints the executive director. The commission's administrative agency oversees academic and student financial aid programs, conducts research and analysis, and provides data and information services, among other responsibilities. Boards govern the campuses of the University of Nebraska and the Nebraska State Colleges. Nebraska's community colleges are not part of a system and are governed by local boards.
Nevada	The Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education governs the state's public four- and two-year postsecondary institutions and oversees the Desert Research Institute. The board appoints the system's chancellor. The system office implements board policies, oversees academic programs, administers student financial aid, and provides data and information services, among other responsibilities. Institutions within the system are not governed by local boards.
New Hampshire	New Hampshire does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public postsecondary education. The Division of Higher Education within the New Hampshire Department of Education is an administrative agency that oversees federal programs, provides data and information services, and administers student financial aid programs. The Higher Education Commission oversees certain responsibilities of the division and the governor appoints the members while others serve as ex-officio members. The governor appoints the division's executive director after consultation with the K-12 education commissioner, higher education commission and state board of education. Governing boards oversee the University System of New Hampshire and the Community College System of New Hampshire and appoint the chancellors. The four-year and two-year system offices implement board policies and programs and provide services to the institutions, which do not have local governing boards.
New Jersey	New Jersey does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public postsecondary education. The State of New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education is an administrative/service agency that leads statewide planning and policy development, advocates for institutions postsecondary issues, administers state and federal programs, produces data analysis and research reports, licenses institutions and oversees accountability programs. The secretary of higher education, who is appointed by the governor with consent of the Senate, advances statewide goals and submits recommendations on the higher education budget and student aid levels to the governor and legislature. New Jersey Presidents' Council serves an advisory role on postsecondary issues. The New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, which is a separate agency, administers financial aid programs. The state's postsecondary institutions are governed by local boards and not part of systems.
New Mexico	New Mexico's Department of Higher Education is a coordinating agency for public postsecondary education and oversees independent institutions. New Mexico no longer has a statewide coordinating board associated with the agency. The governor, with consent of the Senate, appoints the department's executive director. The department develops higher education strategic plans, administers federal and state academic programs, conducts studies, administers student financial aid programs, provides data services to institutions and ensures academic program quality. Boards govern the University of New Mexico, Mexico State University and Eastern New Mexico University, which also include community college branch campuses, and other individual institutions. The public independent community colleges are governed by local boards.
New York	The University of the State of New York (USNY) consists of all elementary, secondary and postsecondary education institutions, and other libraries, museums, institutions, schools, organizations and agencies for education. University is a broad term encompassing all the institutions offering education in the state. The Board of Regents of The University of the State of New York is responsible for the general supervision of and setting policy for all education activities within the state and presides over USNY and the state education department. The education department's Office of Higher Education administers federal programs, oversees college outreach, authorizes institutions and registers academic degree programs. New York State has two public higher education sectors/systems: The City University of New York (CUNY) and The State University of New York (SUNY). Governing boards have primary authority over the policies, procedures and operations of their systems and appoint the chancellors. The Higher Education Services Corporation, which is not part of the education department, administers student financial aid programs.

STATE	OVERVIEW
North Carolina	<p>North Carolina does not have a single statewide or systemwide coordinating or governing board for public postsecondary education. The University of North Carolina Board of Governors governs a system of public four-year institutions and appoints the president. The system office implements board policies, administers various programs and provides services to the campuses. The universities have local advisory boards, although the Board of Governors may delegate additional authorities to these boards. The North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges is a governing board for two-year institutions and appoints the system president. The system office carries out board policies, administers programs, licenses for-profit colleges, and provides data and services to the institutions, which are governed by local boards. The North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority administers student financial aid programs, oversees outreach and access programs related to financial assistance, and administers the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA).</p>
North Dakota	<p>The North Dakota State Board of Higher Education is a single statewide governing board for public postsecondary education and appoints the system chancellor. The board of higher education also oversees extension service centers and research institutes. The system office implements board policies, administers academic and financial aid programs, and publishes various data reports on higher education, among other responsibilities. The system's four- and two-year institutions do not have local governing boards.</p>
Ohio	<p>Ohio's Department of Higher Education is a statewide coordinating agency for postsecondary education and oversees authorization of and program approval for independent institutions. The department is responsible for duties common to administrative agencies and coordinating boards since the Ohio Board of Regents serves in an advisory capacity to the chancellor (executive officer). These responsibilities include developing strategic plans, advising state policy leaders, approving new academic programs, administering academic and student financial aid programs, and providing data and reporting services. The governor, with confirmation by the Senate, appoints the department's chancellor. Ohio's four- and two-year institutions are governed by local boards and are not part of postsecondary systems.</p>
Oklahoma	<p>The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education serves as a statewide coordinating board for postsecondary education, authorizes independent institutions and appoints the chancellor for the affiliated agency. The agency carries out board policies, administers financial aid programs, analyzes and disseminates higher education data, and produces research reports, among other services. Governing boards oversee postsecondary systems, multi-campus institutions and individual institutions in Oklahoma.</p>
Oregon	<p>Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission is a statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education and authorizes independent institutions. The coordinating board appoints the executive director of the commission. The administrative agency associated with the board implements policies; administers academic, financial aid and workforce programs; conducts research and analysis; and provides data reports and other services. The universities and community colleges are governed by local boards and are not part of postsecondary systems, although several institutions have multiple locations.</p>
Pennsylvania	<p>Pennsylvania does not have a statewide coordinating or governing board for postsecondary education. The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Board of Governors is the governing board for the state's four-year institutions and appoints the chancellor. The system office implements board policies, administers various programs and provides services to the campuses, which have local governing boards. In July 2020, the board of governors approved a financial review of integration options for various operations and programs at six of the system's 14 universities. Pennsylvania State University Board of trustees governs its multi-campus and governing boards oversee other four-year institutions. The state's community colleges are governed by local boards and are not part of a system. The Pennsylvania Department of Education has limited jurisdiction over postsecondary institutions. The Higher and Career Education division in the department oversees postsecondary education with respect to degree granting authority, new program and degree approvals, and data and information services. The Pennsylvania State Board of Education governs various components of K-12 and higher education, although the board exercises limited authority over postsecondary institutions. Pennsylvania's Higher Education Assistance Authority administers student financial aid programs and oversees other programs related to financial assistance.</p>

STATE	OVERVIEW
Rhode Island	<p>Rhode Island’s Board of Education serves as a coordinating board with certain governing responsibilities for public education, preschool through graduate school (P-20) and its authority pertains primarily to broader P-20 issues. Within the P-20 governance system, the board comprises members of the Rhode Island Council on Postsecondary Education, which serves as the governing board for two of the three public higher education institutions, and the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education, which governs the K-12 sector. The councils and the board have limited authority over independent institutions. The Council on Postsecondary Education appoints the commissioner of postsecondary education, with approval of the state board, and the governor serves as an additional voting member for purpose of appointing, retaining or dismissing the commissioner. Rhode Island’s Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner is the affiliated administrative agency and charged with carrying out board policies, providing data analysis, assisting with P-20 policy coordination, and administering financial aid programs. The office also provides support services to Rhode Island College and Community College of Rhode Island, which do not have local governing boards. The budget bill enacted in 2019 removed the University of Rhode Island from the Council of Postsecondary Education and board of education’s authority and created a governing board for the single-campus university.</p>
South Carolina	<p>South Carolina’s Commission on Higher Education is the statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education and authorizes independent institutions. The board appoints the executive officer for the affiliated agency. The administrative agency is charged with implementing board policies, provides data analysis and reports, conducts research, and administers academic and student financial aid programs, among other duties. A governing board oversee the South Carolina Technical College System and its institutions are governed by local boards (commissions). Local boards govern several other four- and two-year institutions.</p>
South Dakota	<p>South Dakota does not have a single, statewide coordinating or governing board for postsecondary education. The South Dakota Board of Regents is a governing board for the public four-year institutions and two special schools, which do not have local governing boards, and appoints the system’s executive director. The system office is responsible for administering academic and financial aid programs, and providing data and accountability reports, among other duties. South Dakota’s Board of Technical Education, established in 2017, coordinates the locally-governed technical colleges and appoints the executive director. The board of technical education is housed within the department of education which, along with the board of education, previously governed the colleges.</p>
Tennessee	<p>Tennessee’s Higher Education Commission is the statewide coordinating board for postsecondary education and exercises limited authority over independent institutions. The coordinating board appoints the commission’s executive director. The affiliated agency implements board policies, administers federal and state programs, provides data analysis and reports, and conducts research, among other duties. The Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation administers financial aid programs and is housed within but operates separately from the higher education commission. The Board of Trustees of the University of Tennessee governs the four-year institutions within its system, which have advisory boards, and Tennessee’s Board of Regents governs community and technical colleges, which do not have local governing or advisory boards. Local governing boards oversee the state universities and have authorities aligned with those of the two postsecondary systems.</p>
Texas	<p>The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board serves as a single statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education and authorizes and monitors accredited degree-granting private postsecondary institutions. The board appoints the commissioner of higher education. The affiliated agency administers federal and states academic programs, provides data analysis and reports on higher education-related issues, administers student financial aid programs, conducts research and analysis, and determines programs of study, among other responsibilities. Governing boards oversee several four-year postsecondary systems and multi-campus institutions and the Texas State University System, which includes four- and two-year institutions. The community colleges in Texas are not part of a system and are governed by local district boards, and several have multiple campuses. A board of regents oversees the Texas State Technical College System, which operates as a single statewide institution with multiple campuses.</p>

STATE	OVERVIEW
Utah	<p>The Utah Board of Higher Education is a single, statewide governing board that oversees all public postsecondary institutions, which also have local governing boards. Legislation enacted in 2020 renamed the Utah State Board of Regents as the Utah Board of Higher Education and transferred all duties of Utah's Technical Colleges Board of Trustees to the new, statewide governing body. Some changes resulting from the new law are effective as of January 1, 2021. The board of higher education appoints the statewide system's commissioner with approval of the governor and Senate. The system office is responsible for developing and administering statewide academic and administrative policies; administering workforce programs; administering financial aid programs; coordinating statewide data collection and publishing data and accountability reports; and providing services to institutions, among other duties. The Higher Education Assistance Authority provides loan services to students and institutions and is under the direction of the board of higher education.</p>
Vermont	<p>Vermont's higher education system is not overseen by a statewide governing or coordinating board. The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees governs four- and two-year institutions, which do not have local governing boards, and appoints the system's chancellor. The system office carries out board policies, administers academic programs and provides support services to its campuses, among other duties. The University of Vermont's Board of Trustees governs the institution and appoints the president. Vermont's Student Assistance Corporation administers financial aid programs and oversees outreach and training programs related to financial assistance.</p>
Virginia	<p>The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia is the statewide coordinating board for public postsecondary education and has certain oversight responsibilities for independent institutions. The coordinating board appoints the director. The associated agency is responsible for implementing board policies, administering academic and financial aid programs, developing and maintaining a comprehensive data system, analyzing and reporting data, and conducting research, among other duties. Virginia's State Board for Community Colleges governs the system's two-year institutions, which do not have local governing boards. The state's four-year institutions are overseen by local governing boards.</p>
Washington	<p>Washington's Student Achievement Council serves as the state's coordinating board for public education. The governor appoints the executive director based on the recommendation of the coordinating board. The affiliated agency implements board policies, conducts research and analysis, and administers academic and student financial aid programs. The Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges coordinates a system of two-year institutions, which have individual governing boards. The universities, some of which have multiple campuses, are governed by local boards.</p>
West Virginia	<p>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 and 2020 legislation allowed all four-year institutions to apply for this exempted status. 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. Legislation enacted in 2020 clarified that the commission's chancellor may also serve simultaneously as the council's chancellor.</p>
Wisconsin	<p>Wisconsin does not have a single, statewide coordinating or governing board for postsecondary education. The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System governs the institutions, which do not have local boards, and appoints the system's president. As of July 2018, the 13 two-year campuses formerly known as UW Colleges became branch campuses of seven of the system's four-year comprehensive or research institutions. The system office carries out board policies, administers academic and student success programs, and conducts research and policy analysis, among other responsibilities. Wisconsin's Technical College System Board coordinates the technical institutions, which are governed by local boards, and appoints the president. The system office implements statewide policies and standards approved by the board and provides data and reporting services, among other responsibilities. The Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board administers student financial aid programs and tuition reciprocity agreements, and provides training related to financial assistance. The Educational Approval Program, located within the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services, is charged with authorizing private trade, technical and other degree-granting schools.</p>

STATE

OVERVIEW

Wyoming

Wyoming does not have a single, statewide coordinating or governing board for postsecondary education. The Board of Trustees governs the University of Wyoming, which is the state's four-year institution, and appoints the president. Wyoming's Community College Commission coordinates the two-year institutions, which have local governing boards, and appoints the executive director. The commission office provides data and reporting services, administers academic programs and administers the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). Wyoming's Department of Education administers the state's student financial aid program.