
APPENDIX B

NASBE and ECS State Models of Governance

State Education Governance Models (2005)

Model I
Governor appoints state board, board appoints chief state school officer
12 states
Alaska
Arkansas
Connecticut
Florida
Illinois
Kentucky
Maryland
Massachusetts
Missouri
Rhode Island
Vermont
West Virginia

Model II
Elected state board, board appoints chief state school officer
8 states
Alabama
Colorado
Hawaii
Kansas
Michigan
Nebraska
Nevada
Utah
Also, Northern Marianas

Model III
Governor appoints state board, independently elected chief state school officer
11 states
Arizona
California
Georgia
Idaho
Indiana
Montana
North Carolina
North Dakota
Oklahoma
Oregon
Wyoming

Model IV
Governor appoints state board and chief state school officer
9 states
Delaware
Iowa
Maine
New Hampshire
New Jersey
Pennsylvania
South Dakota
Tennessee
Virginia
Also, Puerto Rico

Other Models

- Mix of appointed/elected state board members:** Louisiana (board appoints chief); Ohio (board appoints chief); DC (board appoints chief); Guam (gov. appoints chief)
- Legislature appoints board:** New York (board appoints chief); South Carolina (chief elected)
- Mixed appointment of board (gov., lt. gov., speaker of the house):** Mississippi (board appoints chief)
- Elected board, governor appoints chief:** Texas, New Mexico
- Local boards elect state board, chief elected:** Washington
- No state board:** Minnesota (gov. appoints chief); Wisconsin (chief elected)

Chief State School Officer Selection Method
Board appoints: 24
(also DC, Northern Marianas)
Governor appoints: 12
(also Guam, Puerto Rico)
Elected: 14



Models of State Education Governance

Compiled by Todd Ziebarth

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Model One

Within this model, the governor appoints the state board of education. Also, the state board of education appoints the chief state school officer. There are 10 Model One states: Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, New Hampshire, Vermont and West Virginia.

Model Two

Within this model, the state board of education is elected, and appoints the chief state school officer. There are eight Model Two states: Alabama, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada and Utah.

Model Three

Within this model, the governor appoints the state board of education. Also, the chief state school officer is elected. There are 10 Model Three states: Arizona, California, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon and Wyoming. In three of these states, Arizona, Indiana and Oklahoma, the chief state school officer is also a voting member of the state board of education.

Model Four

Within this model, the governor appoints the state board of education and the chief state school officer. There are eight Model Four states: Alaska, Delaware, Iowa, Maine, New Jersey, South Dakota, Tennessee and Virginia.

Other Models

In addition, 14 states do not conform to any of the four models. They are:

- Louisiana: Eight state board members are elected, and the governor appoints three members. The state board appoints the chief state school officer.
- Massachusetts: Seven state board members are appointed by the governor, one member is appointed by the student advisory council and one member is appointed by the higher education coordinating council. The state board appoints the chief state school officer.
- Minnesota: There is no state board, and the governor appoints the chief state school officer.
- Mississippi: The governor appoints five state board members, while the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house each appoint two members. The state board appoints the chief state school officer.
- New Mexico: The state board is elected, and the governor appoints the chief state school officer.

- New York: The state legislature appoints the state board, and the state board appoints the chief state school officer.
- North Carolina: Two state board members are elected, and the governor appoints 11 members. The chief state school officer is elected.
- Ohio: Eleven state board members are elected, and the governor appoints eight members, with the advice and consent of the senate. The state board appoints the chief state school officer.
- Pennsylvania: Four state board members are elected, and the governor appoints 17 members. The governor appoints the chief state school officer.
- Rhode Island: Two state board members are elected, and the governor appoints nine members. The state board appoints the chief state school officer.
- South Carolina: The state legislature appoints 16 state board of education members, and the governor appoints one state board member. The chief state school officer is elected.
- Texas: The state board is elected, and the governor appoints the chief state school officer.
- Washington: Nine state board members are elected by their local school boards, one member is elected by the governing boards of state-approved K-12 private schools and votes only on matters pertaining to private schools and one member, the chief state school officer, is elected by the general public.
- Wisconsin: There is no state board of education, and the chief state school officer is elected.

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