Now accepting applications for the Class of 2021 from elected and appointed executive, legislative and judicial state officials

October 2-6, 2021

Winthrop Rockefeller Institute
Petit Jean Mountain

Capital Hotel
Little Rock, Arkansas

Promoting nonpartisan leadership among elected and appointed Southern state government officials

CALS® center for the advancement of leadership skills
An exclusive four-day program with a full agenda
Selected state officials will convene on Saturday, October 2, and depart the morning of Wednesday, October 6. Participants are expected to attend all sessions and engage with classmates and presenters.

A time to learn from others
CALS is organized by the Southern Legislative Conference of The Council of State Governments, a nonpartisan organization promoting intergovernmental cooperation among its 15 member states. In that spirit, the program brings together Southern state officials from all three branches of government in a nonpartisan, collegial environment. To foster connections among classmates, the class size is capped at 25 participants.

An opportunity to strengthen your leadership skills
Through activities and instruction focusing on the program’s four central components – communication, conflict resolution, consensus building and critical decision making – CALS scholars have an opportunity to reinforce and refine these crucial skills. Ultimately, CALS aims to cultivate highly skilled, educated and confident leaders.

A deep dive without distractions
For the majority of the program, participants will be hosted atop Petit Jean Mountain at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute. This one-of-a-kind facility – once the estate and cattle farm of former Arkansas Governor Winthrop Rockefeller – has been transformed into a gathering place for leaders around the region. The final day of the program is held at the historic Capital Hotel in the heart of Little Rock.
WHY CALS?
CALS embodies the Southern Legislative Conference of The Council of State Governments’ mission of championing excellence in state government and providing nonpartisan forums for state officials who might rarely cross paths to share ideas. In addition to developing and enhancing leadership skills, the program provides participants a unique opportunity to foster connections, engage in conversations and take part in sessions designed to explore individual boundaries and perceptions.

WHO’S ELIGIBLE?
New and mid-career state elected or appointed executive, legislative and judicial branch officials serving in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

WHAT’S THE COST?
Full scholarships are provided to those selected, covering the cost of tuition, travel, lodging and meals.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?
Visit slcatlanta.org/CALS to learn more about the program and its history and to view the online application. For specific inquiries, please call (404) 633-1866 or email cals@csg.org.

PLEASE NOTE
Because of the nature of the program and the importance of interaction among classmates, participating state officials must commit to attend the program in its entirety. Attendance at all CALS events is limited to selected state officials. Spouses, guests and children are not permitted to attend or accompany participants to the program.
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Founded in 1933, The Council of State Governments (CSG) is our nation’s only organization serving all three branches of state government. CSG is a region-based forum that fosters the exchange of insights and ideas to help state officials shape public policy. This offers unparalleled regional, national and international opportunities to network, develop leaders, collaborate and create problem-solving partnerships.

Opened in 1959 as the final regional office of CSG, the mission of the Southern Office is to promote and strengthen intergovernmental cooperation among its 15 member states, predominantly through the programs and services provided by its Southern Legislative Conference (SLC). Legislative leadership, members and staff depend on the SLC to identify and analyze solutions for the most prevalent and unique state government policy issues facing Southern states. Member outreach in state capitols, leadership development and staff exchange programs, workshops, domestic and international delegation study tours, and policy fly-ins by the Southern Office support state policymakers and legislative staff in their work to build a stronger region.

Established in 1947, the SLC is a member-driven organization and serves as the premier public policy forum for Southern state legislatures. The SLC Annual Meeting and a broad array of similarly well-established and successful SLC programs — focusing on both existing and emerging state government innovations and solutions — provide policymakers diverse opportunities to interact with policy experts and share their knowledge with colleagues.