

STAFF ACADEMY FOR
GOVERNMENTAL EXCELLENCE™

SAGE

Southern Office of
The Council of State Governments

a professional leadership development program for

*state legislative, judicial, executive
and agency staff*



ATLANTA, GEORGIA
NOVEMBER 11-14, 2020

STAFF ACADEMY FOR GOVERNMENTAL EXCELLENCE

Developing future leaders supporting Southern state governments

The Staff Academy for Governmental Excellence (SAGE) is a **professional leadership development program for Southern state legislative, judicial, executive and agency staff**. In addition to developing their personal and professional leadership skills, participants have the opportunity to build a network of their peers from across the Southern region.

Government staff work daily and diligently, often behind the scenes, to fulfill their duties to support the myriad functions of state government.

While elected and appointed officials may leave their post at the end of a term, many staff work in service of their states for the duration of their career. By **shaping staff leaders, SAGE ultimately aims to provide the public with more effective state governments.**

The **Southern Office of The Council of State Governments (CSG)** and the **Southern Legislative Conference** have a long history of providing exemplary leadership training opportunities for state elected and appointed officials, primarily through the Center for the Advancement of Leadership Skills (CALs), inaugurated in 2007. Building upon the success of CALs and recognizing a need and desire for leadership development for state government staff, the Southern Office of CSG is proud to launch the Staff Academy for Governmental Excellence.

ONLINE APPLICATION: DUE BY AUGUST 31

- » **Two letters of recommendation**
 - ◇ *One from a current supervisor*
 - ◇ *One from a current or former colleague or supervisor*
- » **Résumé**
- » **Answers to two brief essay questions**



ADDITIONAL PROGRAM DETAILS

2020 APPLICATION TIMELINE

Tuesday, March 24	Applications open on slcatlanta.org/SAGE
Monday, August 31	Applications due
Mid-September	Applicants notified of their status
Wednesday, November 11 - Saturday, November 14	Inaugural program convenes

ELIGIBILITY

Applications will be accepted from early and mid-career state legislative, judicial, executive and agency staff in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. Applicants must be continuously employed in state government for at least three years.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

- » Aspiring leaders
- » New managers
- » Existing managers seeking to refine their skills

SELECTION CRITERIA

Successful candidates will demonstrate a:

- » Motivation for personal and professional growth
- » Dedication to public service
- » Commitment to improving processes in your governmental branch
- » Desire to foster a culture of diversity and excellence



The 2020 SAGE program will be held at the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center in the heart of Atlanta's vibrant Technology Square neighborhood.

Learn more at slatlanta.org/SAGE

**The inaugural class will convene
November 11 - 14, 2020, in Atlanta, Georgia.**

Visit slatlanta.org/SAGE to sign up for email alerts or apply online.

**Full scholarships will be provided to those selected,
covering the cost of tuition, travel, lodging and meals.**

EXAMPLE SESSION TOPICS

- » Managing up
- » Creating a culture of ethics and excellence
- » Communication styles
- » Executive presence
- » Conflict management
- » Navigating a diverse workforce



Technology Square, Midtown Atlanta

PLEASE NOTE

Because of the nature of the program and the importance of interaction among classmates, participating government staff must commit to attend the program in its entirety. SAGE is a classroom experience, not a conference.

Attendance at all SAGE events is limited to the selected participants. Spouses, guests and children are not permitted to attend or accompany participants to the program.

PROGRAM LIAISON

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SERVING THE SOUTH

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, meetings, 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.



SOUTHERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Southern Office of
The Council of State Governments

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