Staf Academy for Governmental Excellence™

SAGE Southern Office of The Council of State Governments

A professional leadership development program for state legislative, judicial, and agency staff

Atlanta, GA
November 10 - 13, 2021
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 nation’s only regionally focused leadership development program for state government staff, SAGE is rooted in the Southern Office of The Council of State Government’s proud legacy of providing exemplary leadership training to elected and appointed state officials. SAGE is designed to equip emerging and aspiring staff leaders with the tools necessary to excel in navigating the unique dynamics of career public service and to build a deep bench of highly skilled future leaders among state government staff.

**COST**

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

**PLEASE NOTE**

SAGE is a classroom experience, not a conference. 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.

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.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

» 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
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 their governmental branch
» Desire to foster a culture of diversity and excellence

LOCATION
The 2021 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 and apply at slcatlanta.org/SAGE
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Lindsey Gray
Director, Southern Legislative Conference
Director, Southern Office of
The Council of State Governments

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, 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.