



Western Legislative Academy
THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS WEST



2023 WESTERN LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY



DECEMBER 12-15, 2023

COLORADO SPRINGS

APPLY ONLINE
www.csgwest.org

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 28



WEST

What is the Western Legislative Academy?

The West's premier training event for lawmakers in their first 4 years of cumulative service.

Three and a half-days of intensive skill building for state legislators from Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

What are the goals?

- Help legislators become more effective leaders
- Build strong state legislative institutions

What will I learn?

- Principles of governance
- Consensus building/negotiations
- Tools for ethical decision-making
- History & significance of state legislatures
- Impacts of personality styles
- Leadership techniques
- Time & focus management

What is the value?

- The WLA continues to receive high marks for its overall value to lawmakers from alumni and state leaders alike.
- Since 2000, we have graduated 831 alumni who have returned to their state legislatures ready to make a difference.
- Many of our alumni have gone on to serve as leaders, including presiding officers, majority and minority leaders, committee and caucus leaders, a lieutenant governor, and as members of the U.S. Congress.

Who are the faculty?

National experts in state legislatures, communications, time and focus management, governance, ethics and negotiations.



Who governs the Western Legislative Academy?

- The CSG West officers and Executive Committee serve as the board of directors for the WLA

Where is the Western Legislative Academy held?

- Colorado Springs, CO
- Classes will be held at the Broadmoor Hotel
- Academy and historical performance at the El Pomar Foundation's historic Penrose House.
- Participants are housed at the Broadmoor Hotel

How is the Academy funded?

- With support from state dues, foundation funding and the private sector, CSG West provides training, complimentary meals and participant lodging
- Participants pay for their own travel to and from Colorado Springs

WLA Class Presidents



- 2022
Utah Representative Andrew Stoddard
- 2021
Wyoming Representative Mike Yin
- 2019
New Mexico Representative Andrea Romero
- 2018
Hawai'i Senator Kaiali'i Kahele
- 2017
Nevada Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno
- 2016
Wyoming Representative Tyler Lindholm
- 2015
Alaska Representative Geran Tarr
- 2014
Idaho Representative Kelley Packer
- 2013
Arizona Senator Kelli Ward
- 2012
Wyoming Senator Ogden Driskill
- 2011
Nevada Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson
- 2010
Wyoming Senator Drew Perkins
- 2009
New Mexico Senator John Sapien
- 2008
Arizona Senator Steve Farley
- 2007
New Mexico Representative Thomas Garcia
- 2006
Idaho Representative Rich Wills
- 2005
Nevada Assemblywoman Heidi Gansert
- 2004
New Mexico Representative Jose Campos
- 2003
Nevada Senator Kelvin Atkinson
- 2002
Montana Senator Jim Keane
- 2001
Alaska Senator Lesil McGuire
- 2000
Nevada Senator Barbara Cegavske

(Members listed with titles at their time of participation)

WLA

DECEMBER 12-15, 2023
Colorado Springs, CO

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 28

Selection criteria includes:

- Dedication to public service
- Desire to improve your personal effectiveness as a legislator
- Commitment to the institution of the legislature
- Interest in improving the legislative process

Reminders about the Western Legislative Academy:

Because of the nature of the program and the importance of interaction among legislators, **participants must commit to attend the program in its entirety**. The WLA is a classroom experience, not a conference.

- Please keep a copy of your completed application for your files.
- You will be notified that your application has been received and if any information is missing.
- CSG West's bipartisan leadership will select WLA participants. Applicants will be notified in August regarding their status.
- Class size is 52, with at least two and no more than five per Western state.
- Selection is limited to legislators in their first 4 years of cumulative legislative service.
- Attendance at all WLA events is limited to Academy participants, CSG West staff, presenters and sponsors. There are no events for spouses, guests or children.

APPLY TODAY!

Apply online at www.csgwest.org

Email Letters of Recommendations to:

wla@csg.org

Mail Letters of Recommendations to:

Executive Committee - WLA Selection
The Council of State Governments West
1107 Ninth Street, Suite 730
Sacramento, CA 95814

For questions about the WLA, please contact Will Keyse at wkeyse@csg.org (916)-330-4513.

The Council of State Governments West is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association serving legislatures in the 13 Western states. CSG West promotes excellence in state legislatures through regional cooperation and professional development.

