Reference

- WICHE Commission 13-3
- Commission committees 13-6
- Legislative Advisory Committee 13-7
- WICHE staff 13-10
- Future commission meeting dates 13-10
- Higher education organizations & acronyms 13-11
- Map of U.S. Pacific Territories and Freely Associated States 13-14
WICHE's 48 commissioners are appointed by their governors from among state higher education executive officers, college and university presidents, legislators, and business leaders from 15 Western states and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, WICHE's newest member. This regional commission provides governance and guidance to WICHE's staff in Boulder, CO. Jeanne Kohl-Welles, King County Councilmember, is the 2016 chair of the WICHE Commission; Patricia Sullivan, associate dean of the College of Engineering at New Mexico State University, is vice chair.

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WICHE’s Legislative Advisory Committee works to strengthen state policymaking in higher education in the West by engaging legislators who are appointed by the WICHE Commission in the discussion of higher education issues and by seeking their input on strategies for interstate collaboration.

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Future Commission Meeting Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>May 16-17, 2016, Laramie, WY</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>November 10-12, 2016, Westminster, CO</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Higher education is addicted to acronyms, so much so that the actual names of organizations are sometimes almost lost to memory. Below, a list of acronyms and the organizations they refer to (plus a few others).

**AACC**  American Association of Community Colleges  aacc.nche.edu
**AACTE**  American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education  aacte.org
**AAC&U**  Association of American Colleges and Universities  aacu.org
**AASCU**  American Association of State Colleges and Universities  aascu.org
**AASHE**  Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  aashe.org
**AAU**  Association of American Universities  aau.edu
**ACC NETWORK**  Adult College Completion Network  adultcollegecompletion.org
**ACCT**  Association of Community College Trustees  acct.org
**ACE**  American Council on Education  acenet.edu
**ACSFA**  Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance  ed.gov/ACSFA
**ACT**  (college admission testing program)  act.org
**ACTA**  American Council of Trustees and Alumni  goacta.org
**ACUTA**  Association of College & University Telecommunications Administrators  acuta.org
**AED**  Academy for Educational Development  aed.org
**AEI**  American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research  aei.org
**AERA**  American Educational Research Association  aera.net
**AGB**  Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges  akg.org
**Ingram Center for Public Trusteeship and Governance**  akg.org/ingram-center-public-trusteeship-and-governance
**AIHEC**  American Indian Higher Education Consortium  aihec.org
**AIHEPS**  Alliance for International Higher Education Policy Studies  nyu.edu/steinhardt/iesp/aiheps/
**AIR**  Association for Institutional Research  airweb.org
**APLU**  Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (formerly NASULGC)  aplu.org
**ASPIRA**  An association to empower Latino youth  aspia.org
**ASHE**  Association for the Study of Higher Education  ashe.org
**CAE**  Council for Aid to Education  cae.org
**CAEL**  Council for Adult and Experiential Learning  cael.org
**CASE**  Council for Advancement and Support of Education  case.org
**CBO**  Congressional Budget Office  cgb.gov
**CCA**  Complete College America  completecollege.org
**CGS**  Council of Graduate Schools  cgso.org
**CHEA**  Council for Higher Education Accreditation  chea.org
**CHEO**  Consortium for Health Education Online  www.wiche.edu/NANSLO/CHEO
**CHEPS**  Center for Higher Education Policy Studies  utwente.nl/mb/cheps
**CIC**  Council of Independent Colleges  cic.org
**CLA**  Collegiate Learning Assessment  cae.org/content/pro_collegiate.htm
**COE**  Council for Opportunity in Education  coen.et.us
**CONAHEC**  Consortium for Higher Education Collaboration  conahec.org
**CONASEP**  CONAHEC's Student Exchange Program  conahecstudentexchange.org
**CSG-WEST**  Council of State Governments - West  csgwest.org
**CSHE**  Center for the Study of Higher Education  ed.psu.edu/cshe
**CSPN**  College Savings Plan Network  collegesavings.org
**CUE**  Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California  cue.usc.edu
**DQC**  Data Quality Campaign  dataqualitycampaign.org
**ECS**  Education Commission of the States  ecs.org

**ED - U.S. Dept. of Education links:**
**ED-FSA**  Federal Student Aid  ed.gov/about/offices/list/fsa
**ED-IES**  Institute of Education Sciences  ed.gov/about/offices/list/ies
**ED-NCES**  National Center for Education Statistics  nces.ed.gov
**ED-OESE**  Office of Elementary & Secondary Education  ed.gov/about/offices/list/oese
**ED-OPE**  Office of Postsecondary Education  ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope
**ED-OSERS**  Office of Special Education & Rehabilitative Services  ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers
**ED-OVAE**  Office of Vocational and Adult Education  ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae
OECD  Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development  www.oecd.org
PARCC  Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers  www.parcconline.com
PISA  Program for International Student Assessment  www.pisa.oecd.org
PESC  Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council  pesc.org
PPIC  Public Policy Institute of California  ppic.org
RMAIR  Rocky Mountain Association for Institutional Research  rmair.org
S-SARA  Southern State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement  sreb.org/page/1740/state_authorization.html
SACS-CoC  Southern Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Colleges  sacsccoc.org
SBAC  Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium  www.smarterbalanced.org
SFARN  Student Financial Aid Research Network  pellinstitute.org/conference_SFARN.html
SHEEO  State Higher Education Executive Officers  sheeo.org
SHEPC  State Higher Education Policy Center  n/a
HEP  State Higher Education Policy Database  higheredpolicies.wiche.edu
SONA  Student Organization of North America  conahec.org/conahec/sona
SREB  Southern Regional Education Board  sreb.org
SREC  Southern Regional Electronic Campus  electroniccampus.org
SURA  Southeastern Universities Research Association  sura.org
TBD  Transparency by Design  wcet.wiche.edu/advance/transparency-by-design
UCEA  University Professional & Continuing Education Association (formerly NUCEA)  ucea.org
UNCF  United Negro College Fund  uncf.org
UNESCO  United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization  unesco.org
UPCEA  University Professional Continuing Education Association  upcea.edu
VSA  Voluntary System of Accountability  voluntarysystem.org
W-SARA  Western State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement  wiche.edu/sara
WACCAL  Western Alliance of Community College Academic Leaders  wiche.edu/waccal
WAGS  Western Association of Graduate Schools  wagsonline.org
WALF  Western Academic Leadership Forum  wiche.edu/walf
WASC-ACCJC  Western Association of Schools and Colleges,  accjcc.org
WASC-Sr  Western Association of Schools and Colleges,  wascsenior.org/wasc
Washington College Directory Network  washington.collegedirectorynetwork.com
WCET  WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies  wcet.wiche.edu
WGA  Western Governors’ Association  westgov.org
WICHE  Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education  wiche.edu
WIN  Western Institute of Nursing  ohsu.edu.son.win

SHEEO Offices in the West:

ABOR  Arizona Board of Regents  abor.asu.edu
ACPE  Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education  state.ak.us/acpe/acpe.html
CCHE  Colorado Commission on Higher Education  highered.colorado.gov/cche.html
CDHE  Colorado Department of Higher Education  highered.colorado.gov
ISBE  Idaho State Board of Education  www.boardofed.idaho.gov
MUS  Montana University System  mus.edu
NDUS  North Dakota University System  ndus.nodak.edu
NMC  Northern Marianas College  marianas.edu
NMHED  New Mexico Higher Education Department  hed.state.nm.us
NSHE  Nevada System of Higher Education  nevada.edu
OEIB  Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission  education.oregon.gov
SDBOR  South Dakota Board of Regents  ris.sdbor.edu
USBR  Utah State Board of Regents  utahsrbr.edu
WASC  Washington Student Achievement Council  wsac.wa.gov
WCCC  Wyoming Community College Commission  commission.wcc.edu
UAS  University of Alaska System  alaska.edu
UH  University of Hawai‘i  hawaii.edu
UW  University of Wyoming  uwyo.edu
U.S. PACIFIC TERRITORIES AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES