Since 1933, The Council of State Governments has served officials in all 50 states and the U.S. territories. The nation’s only nonpartisan association representing all three branches of state government, CSG is a regionally based national organization that promotes excellence in state government. It fosters the interstate exchange of information and ideas to help state officials advance public policy, while also offering unparalleled regional, national and international opportunities for leadership development, collaboration and interstate problem solving.

Through its mix of publications, online resources, networking opportunities and leadership training, CSG Midwest focuses on serving legislators and other state officials from the nation’s heartland. It provides staff support to several regional groups, including the Midwestern Legislative Conference (MLC)—a nonpartisan association of state and provincial legislators from the Midwest.

**MLC MEMBER JURISDICTIONS**

**Member Jurisdictions:** Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Saskatchewan, South Dakota and Wisconsin

**Affiliate Members:** Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario
Through its in-person and virtual meetings, along with the staffing of various interstate committees and working groups, CSG fosters the exchange of information and ideas to help state officials advance public policy.

Every legislator in the Midwest’s 11 states and four Canadian provinces (see map) has access to CSG’s and CSG Midwest’s programs and resources.

**FOR POLICYMAKERS**

> **Participate** in Midwestern Legislative Conference policy committees or other CSG Midwest groups for legislators and other state officials.
>
> **Rely** on us as your source for information and individualized research assistance.
>
> **Attend** the Midwestern Legislative Conference Annual Meeting, the CSG National Conference, and other CSG-led events to learn from and network with colleagues.
>
> **Take** part in CSG’s regularly held virtual sessions that cover a wide array of topics on public policy, leadership and professional development.
>
> **Read** CSG publications such as *Stateline Midwest, Capitol Ideas* and *The Book of the States*.

Contact CSG Midwest: 630.925.1922 or csgm@csg.org.

**ANNUAL MEETINGS**

**The MLC Annual Meeting**—the only event designed by and for state and provincial legislators from the Midwest—features a mix of renowned speakers, professional development workshops and policy sessions on issues of critical importance to this region. This year, the meeting will be held July 11-14 in Rapid City, SD. Additionally, throughout the year, CSG hosts virtual policy and professional development sessions for the Midwest’s legislators and other state leaders.

**HOW CAN I MAKE THE MOST OF CSG & CSG MIDWEST?**
CSG Midwest supports seven standing policy committees of the Midwestern Legislative Conference. Legislators serve on these regional committees to work together on common issues:

- **Agriculture and Natural Resources**
- **Criminal Justice and Public Safety**
- **Economic Development**
- **Education**
- **Fiscal Affairs**
- **Health and Human Services**
- **Midwest-Canada Relations**

CSG Midwest also provides staff support to other groups of legislators and state officials:

- **MLC Forum on Social Justice**
  The forum will provide opportunities for all interested Midwestern legislators to address a wide range of racial and social justice issues, including economic equity, systemic racism and discrimination, racial disparities in public health, education and corrections, and more.

- **Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission**
  An interstate compact agency created by Midwestern states to promote, coordinate and support regional passenger rail improvements and to formulate positions on federal rail policy. For information, visit [miprc.org](http://miprc.org).

- **Midwestern Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee**
  A regional group of state legislators and executive branch officials that brings states together to work with the U.S. Department of Energy on policies and plans for shipping radioactive waste through the region.

- **Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Legislative Caucus**
  A nonpartisan, binational organization of state and provincial legislators organized around the guiding principle of assuring that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River continue to provide a plentiful source of clean, affordable water to the region’s residents, businesses and industries. For information, visit [greatlakeslegislators.org](http://greatlakeslegislators.org).

CSG maintains national committees on intergovernmental, international and interbranch affairs; staffs policy task forces; and regularly holds national policy academies. For information, visit [csg.org](http://csg.org).
Regional and National Publications

CSG’s regional and national publications keep lawmakers informed on key policy trends and innovations in state government, as well as important institutional issues in state government.

Stateline Midwest, published 11 times a year, focuses on key policies and trends of interest to this region and its elected officials.

Capitol Ideas, CSG’s national magazine, is published five times a year and covers cutting-edge issues and forecasts policy trends in state government.

The Book of the States, an annual encyclopedia of essential information on state government, is a premier resource for policymakers and academic institutions throughout the nation.

ONLINE RESOURCES

» CSG Midwest's Online Policy and Research
  a compilation of key issues in state government and the Midwest
  csgmidwest.org

» CSG’s Shared State Legislation
  an annual program (developed through a member-driven process) that shares information on legislative development in the states
  csg.org

» CSG Justice Center
  a leading national source of information on criminal justice policy
  csgjusticecenter.org

» Virtual Sessions for State Policymakers
  regularly held virtual sessions and webinars that allow attendees to share ideas with one another and learn from leading policy experts
CSG seeks to advance public policy at the state level through its CSG Center of Innovation, CSG Justice Center and CSG National Center for Interstate Compacts.

**The CSG Center of Innovation** provides fact-based and data-driven policy support, identifies and fosters state-driven policy solutions, and works to ensure equality of opportunity and engagement across all populations. For information, visit csg.org/coi

**The CSG Justice Center** provides states with practical, nonpartisan, research-driven strategies and tools to increase public safety and strengthen communities. For information, visit csgjusticecenter.org.

**CSG’s National Center for Interstate Compacts** assists policymakers in developing interstate compacts to address problems that span state boundaries. Examples of CSG-facilitated interstate agreements include compacts to improve adult offender supervision, to strengthen educational opportunities for military children, and to allow physicians to practice across state lines. For information, visit csg.org/NCIC.

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & POLICY TRAINING**

» **The Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development, or BILLD,** is the premier leadership training program for the Midwest’s state and provincial legislators. Held in Minneapolis, the five-day institute offers lawmakers in their first four years of service a unique educational and networking opportunity.

» **Toll Fellows** is CSG’s national leadership program. Every year, a select group of state officials from all three branches of government travel to Lexington, Ky., for an intensive “leadership boot camp.”

» **CSG Midwest’s Under the Dome** initiative delivers customized professional development training and policy workshops in the region’s capitols.

» **CSG Policy Academy Series** offers stand-alone meetings on a specific issue area and provides an intensive educational and networking experience for participating state legislators and other leaders.
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2021

75th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Legislative Conference (MLC)
July 11–14 | Rapid City, SD

26th Annual Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD)
July 30–August 3 | Minneapolis, MN

Henry Toll Fellowship Program
August 20–24 | Lexington, KY

Annual Meeting of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Legislative Caucus (GLLC)
September 24–25 | Québec City, QC

CSG National Conference
December | Santa Fe, NM

2022

76th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Legislative Conference (MLC)
July 10–13 | Wichita, KS

CSG MIDWEST
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The national CSG office is located in Lexington, Ky. CSG has regional offices in Atlanta, Chicago (Lombard, Ill.), New York and Sacramento. It also has an office in Washington, D.C.