2021 WESTERN LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY

DECEMBER 7–10, 2021

COLORADO SPRINGS

Apply online at
WWW.CSGWEST.ORG/WLA

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 23, 2021

“"I was very inspired by colleagues from across the region.""

2019 CLASS MEMBER
What is Western Legislative Academy?

The West’s premier training event for lawmakers in their first four 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 ACADEMY’S GOALS?

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

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

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

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE ACADEMY?

• The WLA continues to receive high marks for its overall value to lawmakers from alumni and state leaders alike.
• Since 2000, we have graduated 756 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, a lieutenant governor, committee and caucus leaders and several members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

WHO GOVERSNS THE WESTERN LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY?

• CSG West officers and the CSG West Executive Committee serve as the board of directors for the Academy

WHERE IS THE WESTERN LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY LOCATED?

• Colorado Springs, CO
• Classes held in the El Pomar Foundation’s historic Penrose House
• Activity based training takes place at the US Air Force Academy
• Participants are housed at the Broadmoor Hotel

WHO PAYS?

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

WHO ARE THE FACULTY?

• National experts in state legislatures, communications, time management, governance, ethics and negotiations
• U.S. Air Force leadership development expert

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit us at www.csgwest.org/WLA for more information and to apply. Application materials must be submitted online or by mail by April 23, 2021.

Questions regarding the WLA? Please contact Erica Miller at 916.553.4423 or wla@csg.org.
WLA Class Presidents

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 in the WLA

Alumni Quotes

Colorado Representative

**KIM RANSOM**

**WLA 2016**

“I appreciate both the knowledge shared with us and the contacts I obtained during the days I spent there.”

Nevada Assemblymember

**TOM ROBERTS**

**WLA 2019**

“CSG West Academy was some of the best legislative training that I have had. The course of instruction provided me with new tools that will make me a better legislator.”

New Mexico Representative

**ANDREA ROMERO**

**2019 WLA CLASS PRESIDENT**

“[During the WLA] you will be among people who truly care about their communities and states—a group who believes in their service and what is possible when we work together—and WLA applies that principle to each of its activities.”

Alaska Representative

**GERAN TARR**

**2015 WLA CLASS PRESIDENT**

“They want you to have the skills to effectively manage your time, to be able to work with people of the other party, to understand your strengths and limitations.”
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 2020 regarding their status.
- Class size is 39, with at least two participants but no more than four 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.

WAYS TO APPLY

- Apply online at www.csgwest.org/WLA
- Email Application to: wla@csg.org
- Fax Application to: 916.446.5760

Questions regarding the WLA may be directed to Erica Miller at 916.553.4423.

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.

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