# SREB

# June 2015

Southern Regional Education Board SREB.org

# The Southern Regional Education Board and Member States

An overview of SREB programs and services and how each member state participated in them from June 2014 through May 2015.



# The Southern Regional Education Board works to improve public education at every level, from pre-K through Ph.D.

A nonprofit, nonpartisan organization headquartered in Atlanta, SREB was created in 1948 by Southern governors and legislators who recognized the link between education and economic vitality. The region's track record shows that setting goals and maintaining the commitment to work toward them make a difference.

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SREB brings together states to focus on what works in both policy and practice, enabling them to improve student achievement, raise high school graduation rates and boost college completion in ways that would not be possible without working together. SREB serves a wide range of education policy leaders, including governors, state legislators, executive and legislative staff, and K-12 and postsecondary agency officials. Targeted SREB programs work directly with educators and scholars at the district, institution and school levels.

SREB's work is funded by member appropriations, by grants from foundations and agencies, and through contracts with district and state agencies. See Funding on Page 23 for details.

### Goals for Education | Monitoring state policies

SREB tracks trends and analyzes progress toward SREB's Challenge to Lead 2020 Goals for Education at every level of education. In 2014 and 2015, staff provided policymakers comparative and state-specific reports on subjects including state progress toward meeting the SREB Challenge to Lead 2020 Goals for Education, implementation of college- and career-readiness standards, workforce development, and college affordability data and analyses on family ability to pay, financial aid and reliance on student loans. Please see Reports, Page 22, for a full list.

### College and career readiness

SREB is working intensively to help member states implement these essential components of SREB's recommendations for statewide college and career readiness:

- 1. Adopt statewide readiness standards for the literacy and mathematics skills students need to succeed in postsecondary study.
- 2. Assess high school juniors to determine their progress in achieving the readiness standards.
- 3. **Offer transitional readiness courses** and require juniors assessed as underprepared to take the classes in 11th or 12th grade.
- 4. **Apply the standards in college**. Ensure that public postsecondary institutions apply the readiness standards agreed to with K-12 in deciding whether students need additional learning support after admission and, if so, the form of such support.
- 5. **Hold schools accountable** to increase postsecondary readiness as an important criterion in school accountability systems.

SREB has worked with all 16 member states on some or all of these elements. The following eight SREB states have passed related legislation:

Arkansas	Maryland
Florida	Tennessee
Georgia	Texas
Kentucky	West Virginia

SREB is assisting Mississippi, Tennessee and West Virginia in their reviews of K-12 standards in literacy and mathematics.

More information: Dave.Spence@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Readiness

#### Benchmarking College- and Career-Readiness Standards

Tracks and reports progress on how states are implementing college- and career-readiness standards. In January, SREB published *Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards, Aligned Assessments and Related Reforms* on how 14 states have implemented their standards. Six individual reports make up the set: a cross-state findings report that describes trends across the states and their work — plus five reports with detailed state profiles by topic.

#### Participating SREB states:

Alabama	Louisiana	South Carolina
Delaware	Maryland	Tennessee
Georgia	Mississippi	West Virginia
Kentucky	North Carolina	

In February 2015, SREB launched a new phase of the benchmarking project — tracking and reporting on standards implementation in all 16 SREB states.

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### **Educator effectiveness**

SREB's educator effectiveness team helps states create and implement educator policies that promote effective teaching. To help policymakers apply current research on what works, the team provides technical assistance, presentations, convenings, reports and extensive discussions on these issues, with a focus on educator evaluation and feedback systems. This year, the team released findings and recommendations on one component of evaluation systems: *Toward Trustworthy and Transformative Classroom Observations*.

SREB also provides an online tool that tracks proposed legislation on teacher and leader evaluation as well as evaluation policies across all SREB states. During 2014-15, educator effectiveness staff worked with legislators, state agency leaders and policymakers in every SREB state.

#### More information: Andy.Baxter@SREB.org | (704) 247-7497 | SREB.org/EE

## Early childhood education

#### Early Childhood Commission

SREB's Early Childhood Commission is convening leaders to recommend policies that will give more young children a solid start when they enter school. The Commission's focus is on access to high-quality programs and the importance of highly skilled teachers to young children's learning experiences. Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear chairs the Commission, which presents draft recommendations for the SREB Board to consider in summer 2015 and will publish its report later in 2015. Members of the Commission:

Steve Beshear, Governor, Kentucky Chair

Matt Arthur, Deputy Commissioner, Technical College System of Georgia Tamara Barringer, State Senator, North Carolina Melanie Barton, Executive Director, Education Oversight Committee, South Carolina

Harry Ray Brooks, State Representative, Tennessee Steve Carter, State Representative, Louisiana Ann Coody, State Representative, Oklahoma Sharon Darling, President and Founder, National Center for Families Learning, Kentucky Joyce Elliott, State Senator, Arkansas Marsha Farney, State Representative, Texas Vivian Davis Figures, State Senator, Alabama John Ford, State Senator, Oklahoma Derrick Graham, State Representative, Kentucky Dolores Gresham, State Senator, Tennessee Sheila Ellis Hixson, State Delegate, Maryland Janet Howell, State Senator, Virginia Lillian Lowery, State Superintendent of Schools, State Department of Education, Maryland Jennifer McClellan, State Delegate, Virginia Fran Millar, State Senator, Georgia Joseph Miro, State Representative, Delaware John Moore, State Representative, Mississippi David Perry, State Delegate, West Virginia John Pruette, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning, Department of Public Instruction, North Carolina Johnnie Roebuck, Former State Legislator and Retired Educator, Arkansas Inez Tenenbaum, Attorney at Law, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, South Carolina Terry Tolan, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Early Childhood, Kentucky Gray Tollison, State Senator, Mississippi Mike Walsworth, State Senator, Louisiana Mark White, State Representative, Tennessee Mike Wilson, State Senator, Kentucky

More information: Mark.Emblidge@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/EarlyLearning

## Career and technical education

#### **Commission on Career and Technical Education**

SREB's Commission on Career and Technical Education, chaired by Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear, explored optional career pathway programs of study to help more students acquire the academic and technical knowledge and skills to earn industry and postsecondary credentials and secure high-skill, high-wage, highdemand jobs. The Commission's April 2015 report, *Credentials for All: An Imperative for SREB States*, offers states policies and practices to build high-quality career pathways that transform educational systems and increase attainment of postsecondary credentials and degrees. Members of the Commission:

Steve Beshear, Governor, Kentucky, Chair

June Atkinson, State Superintendent, Public Schools of North Carolina Alan Baker, State Representative, Alabama

Tommy Bice, State Superintendent of Education, Alabama State Department of Education

Hugh Blackwell, State Representative, North Carolina Jay Box, Chancellor, Kentucky Community and Technical College System Harry Ray Brooks, State Representative, Tennessee Terry Burton, State Senator, Mississippi Aneesh Chopra, Senior Advisor, the Advisory Board, Washington, D.C. Norman Conway, Former State Delegate, Maryland Elizabeth Creamer, Advisor for Workforce Development, Secretary of Commerce and Trade, Office of Governor Terry McAuliffe, Virginia Rod Duckworth, Chancellor, Division of Career and Adult Education, Florida Department of Education Gayle Flowers, Director, Career, Adult & Alternative Education, Caddo Parish Public Schools, Louisiana John Ford, State Senator, Oklahoma Derrick Graham, State Representative, Kentucky Steve Gratz, Director, Office of Career-Technical Education, Ohio Department of Education Teri Quinn Gray, President, Delaware State Board of Education Donald Griffith, Director, Teacher Training Program, University of South Carolina, School of Engineering and **Computer Science** Robert Gunter, Vice President for Workforce Education, Mid-South Community College, Arkansas Barbara Hampton, Member, Georgia State Board of Education Greg Higdon, President and CEO, Kentucky Association of Manufacturers Terry Holliday, Commissioner of Education, Kentucky Department of Education Lloyd Jackson, Member, State Board of Education, West Virginia Ronald Jackson, Former Commissioner, Technical College System of Georgia Johnny Key, Commissioner, Arkansas Department of Education John Legg, State Senator, Florida Jean Massey, Associate State Superintendent, Mississippi Department of Education Joe May, Chancellor, Dallas County Community College District, Texas Joseph U. Meyer, Former Secretary of Education and Workforce Development, Kentucky Danielle Mezera, Assistant Commissioner, Career and Technical Education, Tennessee Department of Education Sharon Morrissey, Vice Chancellor for Academic Services & Research, Virginia Community College System Katharine Oliver, Former Assistant State Superintendent, Maryland State Department of Education Phil Owens, Former State Representative, South Carolina Dennis Parker, Assistant Manager, Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing, North America Production Support Center, Kentucky Robert Plymale, State Senator, West Virginia Tim Shaughnessy, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, Gateway Community and Technical College, Kentucky David Sokola, State Senator, Delaware Robert Sommers, Former Secretary of Education and Workforce Development, Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education Royce West, State Senator, Texas

J. Alvin Wilbanks, CEO and Superintendent, Gwinnett County Public Schools, Georgia Michael Williams, Commissioner of Education, Texas Education Agency Mike Wilson, State Senator, Kentucky

#### More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | 404-875-9211 | SREB.org/CTECommission

### Postsecondary education

Two commissions carried SREB's completion initiative into the states in 2014 and 2015, with strong emphasis on readiness and pathways for community colleges and affordability for all students. Building on the success of 2011-14 regional working groups of legislators to vet issues and craft recommendations, both commissions included Board and Legislative Advisory Council members and other key policymakers in the states.

#### **Community College Commission**

SREB's Community College Commission released its report in early 2015, calling on states to reform college placement, reconsider math and literacy requirements, carefully monitor students who need developmental (remedial) courses, and provide firm guidance along structured pathways where students clearly see entry, exit and re-entry points to continue their education. Members of the Commission:

Dan Branch, Former State Representative, Texas Walter Bumphus, President, American Association of Community Colleges, Washington, D.C. Thomas Campbell, Member, State Board of Education, West Virginia Glenn DuBois, Chancellor, Virginia Community College System Joyce Elliott, State Senator, Arkansas Randy Hanna, Former Chancellor, Division of Florida Colleges Sheilla Lampkin, State Representative, Arkansas Joe May, Chancellor, Dallas County Community College District, Texas Mike McCall, Former President, Kentucky Community and Technical College System Joe H. Pickens, President, St. Johns River State College, Florida, Co-Chair John Polk, State Senator, Mississippi Scott Ralls, President, North Carolina Community College System Bernie Sadusky, Executive Director, Maryland Association of Community Colleges Tim Shaughnessy, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, Gateway Community and Technical College, Kentucky, Co-Chair Jabar Shumate, Former State Senator, Oklahoma Jim Skidmore, Chancellor, West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education Francis Thompson, State Senator, Louisiana Yvonne Wood, Member, Women's Economic Council Foundation, Tennessee

More information: Cheryl.Blanco@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/CommunityColleges

#### Commission on College Affordability in the South

SREB's Commission on College Affordability in the South met during 2014 and 2015 to examine states' goals for postsecondary access and attainment and the role affordability should play in achieving those priorities. Drawing on affordability profiles prepared for each state, current research findings and examples of promising practices, the Commission will issue a report and policy recommendations in early 2016. Members of the Commission:

Wayne Andrews, President, Morehead State University, Kentucky Alan Baker, State Representative, Alabama Melanie Barton, Executive Director, Education Oversight Committee, South Carolina Peter Blake, Director, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia Glenn Boyce, Commissioner of Higher Education, Institutions of Higher Learning, Mississippi Harry Ray Brooks, State Representative, Tennessee Julie Carullo, Interim Executive Director, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education Norman Conway, Former State Delegate, Maryland Walter Dalton, President, Isothermal Community College, North Carolina Krissy DeAlejandro, Executive Director, tnAchieves Russ Deaton, Interim Executive Director, Tennessee Higher Education Commission Lee Denney, State Representative, Oklahoma Joyce Elliott, State Senator, Arkansas Terry England, State Representative, Georgia Gregory Fitch, Executive Director, Alabama Commission on Higher Education Erik Fresen, State Representative, Florida Herb Frierson, State Representative, Mississippi James Halligan, State Senator, Oklahoma Randy Hanna, Former Chancellor, Florida College System Jack Hill, State Senator, Georgia Paul Hill, Chancellor, Higher Education Policy Commission, West Virginia Sheila Ellis Hixson, State Delegate, Maryland Hank Huckaby, Chancellor, University System of Georgia Mac Huddleston, State Representative, Mississippi Glen D. Johnson, Chancellor, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Chair Robert King, President, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education Shana Payne, Director, Delaware Higher Education Office Joe H. Pickens, President, St. Johns River State College, Florida Robert H. Plymale, State Senator, West Virginia John Polk, State Senator, Mississippi Brett Powell, Director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education Richard Rhoda, Former Executive Director, Tennessee Higher Education Commission Johnnie Roebuck, Former State Legislator and Retired Educator, Arkansas Tim Shaughnessy, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, Gateway Community and Technical College, Kentucky

Arnold Simpson, State Representative, Kentucky David Sokola, State Senator, Delaware Francis Thompson, State Senator, Louisiana Yvonne Wood, Member, Women's Economic Council Foundation, Tennessee Sandra Woodley, President, University of Louisiana System

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#### **Passport Project**

SREB is joining other regional compacts in the Passport Project, a new learning outcomes-based framework to accelerate and streamline transfer of student course credits among institutions in different states.

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# Professional Development for Teachers, Principals and Counselors

#### Learning-Centered Leadership Program

Works with district, state and university partners to prepare aspiring principals and school leadership to lead school reform to ensure that students are ready for college and careers. This program offers training, guidance, technical assistance and leadership modules. To date, more than 4,000 educators across the SREB region have been trained on these modules.

SREB states that participated in the Leadership Forum, webinars, workshops or online courses from July 2014 through June 2015:

Alabama	Louisiana	Tennessee
Florida	Mississippi	
Georgia	South Carolina	

More information: Jon.Schmidt-Davis@SREB.org | (404) 879-5591 | SREB.org/Leadership

#### Literacy Design Collaborative

Teaches students strategies for reading and understanding specific kinds of complex texts in all subjects to reach the rigorous literacy college- and career-readiness standards. Middle grades and high school students learn to develop and defend ideas from the text and write about them in different college-level formats. SREB's innovative approach starts by training exemplary content teachers as leaders and embeds professional development into the school day and classroom. SREB states that participated in SREB's LDC training during 2014-15:

Alabama	Kentucky	Tennessee
Arkansas	Maryland	Texas
Florida	North Carolina	Virginia
Georgia	South Carolina	West Virginia

#### More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/LDCMDC

#### **Mathematics Design Collaborative**

Uses formative assessment lessons — a hybrid of assessment and instruction — as a tool to help students reach rigorous college- and career-readiness standards. SREB's innovative approach starts by training exemplary content teachers as leaders and embeds professional development into the school day and classroom.

SREB states that participated in SREB's MDC training during 2014-15:

Alabama	Kentucky	South Carolina
Arkansas	Louisiana	Tennessee
Florida	Mississippi	Texas
Georgia	North Carolina	West Virginia

SREB is partnering with state departments of education in Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas to roll out LDC and MDC instructional strategies in hundreds more middle grades and high schools over a three-year period. The first cohort of teachers began in the 2014-15 school year.

#### More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/LDCMDC

#### High Schools That Work Summer Staff Development Conference

Annual conference for thousands of school leaders, teachers and counselors from middle grades, high schools and technology centers across the country.

Number of attendees at the July 2014 conference, by SREB state:

Alabama, 372	Georgia, 278	Mississippi, 38	Tennessee, 270
Arkansas, 254	Kentucky, 123	North Carolina, 302	Texas, 105
Delaware, 20	Louisiana, 50	Oklahoma, 187	Virginia, 45
Florida, 37	Maryland, 27	South Carolina, 978	West Virginia, 249

In addition, more than 1,400 professionals from other states attended.

#### More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/SummerConference

#### **College- and Career-Readiness Networking Conference**

Conference to share effective instructional strategies of the Literacy and Mathematics Design Collaborative frameworks.

Over 1,200 teachers and leaders attended the conference in July 2014. Attendees by SREB state:

Alabama, 60	Georgia, 120	Mississippi, 37	Tennessee, 116
Arkansas, 120	Kentucky, 116	North Carolina, 88	Texas, 31
Delaware, 1	Louisiana, 79	Oklahoma, 2	Virginia, 11
Florida, 36	Maryland, 6	South Carolina, 55	West Virginia, 49

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/NetworkingConference

#### **Teaching to Lead**

SREB helps states redesign programs that prepare business professionals to become career and technical education teachers through an alternative certification route. SREB's Teaching to Lead program provides new CTE teachers knowledge and skills to manage a classroom of diverse students; plan challenging, work-related assignments that will improve students' academic, technical and problem-solving skills; motivate students to complete assignments; and assess student progress.

Number of teachers trained in 2014-15 in SREB states:

Kentucky, 20	Oklahoma, 24
Mississippi, 70	West Virginia, 30

#### More information: Nancy.Headrick@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211

#### **College and Career Counseling Initiative**

Works with colleges of education, education agencies and college access programs to provide training modules for middle grades and secondary school counselors, teachers, administrators and college access professionals to improve their effectiveness in preparing students from low-income families for postsecondary education.

Participating states in the SREB region:

Alabama	Louisiana	South Carolina
Delaware	Mississippi	Oklahoma
Georgia	North Carolina	Tennessee

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# **High School and Middle Grades Improvement**

#### SREB Readiness Courses: Math Ready and Literacy Ready

#### Ready for postsecondary study

SREB courses that teach the reading, writing and mathematics skills young adults must have to succeed in college study and the workplace after high school — how to think independently, read for information and solve problems. Developed by teams of educators and faculty from partner states around the nation, the courses are being field tested in several states and are available at no cost.

SREB is working with states to adopt policies that require the courses to be offered statewide for all students who need them, such as those who test as underprepared in 11th grade.

SREB states that participated in developing, reviewing or field testing the courses:

Arkansas	Louisiana	Oklahoma
Florida	Maryland	South Carolina
Georgia	Mississippi	Tennessee
Kentucky	North Carolina	West Virginia

The courses were implemented in over 100 high schools in SREB states in 2014-15. SREB is working closely with state education agencies in Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina and West Virginia to provide training for implementing the courses in 2015-16. SREB worked with Texas to develop Readiness Courses aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. The Readiness Courses are available to schools at no cost on iTunes U, where they have been downloaded over 3,600 times.

Updated versions of the Readiness Courses — revised based on teacher feedback — will be available in the summer of 2015.

#### Ready for high school

Building on its Readiness Courses for high school students, SREB is working with states to develop courses for the transition from middle grades to high school. Underprepared students will take the classes in eighth or ninth grade. The courses will be available at no cost to schools in all states starting in 2016-17.

Middle school and high school teachers from these states are participating in the development, field-test and review of the literacy and math Readiness Courses for high school:

Arkansas	Kentucky	Tennessee
Florida	Maryland	West Virginia
Georgia	North Carolina	

More information: John.Squires@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Ready

#### **Advanced Career**

A new approach to career and technical education that combines college-readiness academic content with hands-on, project-based assignments centered on a modern-day career focus. The aim is to prepare more students for as many options as possible after high school: a high-value job, college, community college or technical school.

Teams from nine states in the AC consortium are working with SREB to develop four-course sequences of study in career areas important to their states. The pathways are shared with consortium members and available to other states as well.

Thirty-nine schools in eight SREB states, plus 13 schools in five states outside the SREB region, implemented one or more Advanced Career pathways in the 2014-15 school year. Another 23 schools in nine SREB states and 11 schools in five other states will begin implementation in fall 2015.

SREB state members of the Advanced Career consortium and the career pathway curricula they are developing:

Alabama aerospace engineering	South Carolina clean energy technology
Arkansas innovations in science and technology	<b>Texas</b> oil and gas
<b>Kentucky</b> integrated production technologies informatics	West Virginia energy and power

#### North Carolina

project management

About 75 educators participated in SREB webinars on the AC program during the 2014-15 school year. Over 1,200 school and career and technical education leaders receive periodic issues of *Advanced Career News*.

#### More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/AC

#### **High Schools That Work**

The nation's largest school improvement program. HSTW strategies transform high schools into places where all students master complex academic and technical concepts. SREB provides staff development, technical assistance, publication resources and assessment services. More than 1,350 schools in 30 states use the framework and its 10 Key Practices to raise student achievement and graduation rates.

SREB states participating in the HSTW network and their number of active schools during 2014-15:

Alabama, 22	Kentucky, 26	South Carolina, 192
Arkansas, 44	Louisiana, 23	Tennessee, 56
Delaware, 2	Mississippi, 13	Texas, 57
Florida, 8	North Carolina, 31	Virginia, 10
Georgia, 75	Oklahoma, 29	West Virginia, 45

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/HSTW

#### Making Middle Grades Work

The nation's first large-scale effort to engage state, district and school leaders in partnerships with teachers, students, parents and the community to raise student achievement in the middle grades. In addition to workshops and school visits, SREB links schools to the specific professional development resources they need. The network includes 663 schools in 20 states.

SREB states that participate in MMGW and number of active schools in 2014-15:

Louisiana, 16	Tennessee, 21
Maryland, 10	Texas, 30
Mississippi, 3	Virginia, 6
North Carolina, 16	
South Carolina, 122	
	Maryland, 10 Mississippi, 3 North Carolina, 16

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/MMGW

#### **Technology Centers That Work**

Helps shared-time centers implement actions to produce graduates who will be leaders in high-demand, high-wage careers. SREB provides staff development, technical assistance, publications and assessment services. The network includes almost 200 sites in 18 states.

Active centers in SREB states in 2014-15:

Alabama, 10	Louisiana, 1	Virginia, 1
Arkansas, 13	Oklahoma, 25	West Virginia, 15
Georgia, 3	Tennessee, 20	
Kentucky, 3	South Carolina, 17	
Kentucky, 3	South Carolina, 17	

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/TCTW

#### The National Research Center for Career and Technical Education

Provides policy and practice solutions to challenges facing career and technical education, including engaging students in school; improving academic and technical achievement; and better transitioning high school students to college and careers.

SREB states receiving professional development through NRCCTE in 2014-15:

Kentucky Maryland Texas

More information: James.Stone@SREB.org | (502) 322-6260 | SREB.org/TCTW

#### **Counseling for Careers**

Helps students align career pathway programs of study to career goals, postsecondary studies and employment. SREB works with districts and schools so that teachers, counselors, administrators, parents and community partners can advise students on career opportunities, career pathway programs of study, workbased learning experiences, postsecondary education and training opportunities. *Participating SREB states:* 

Arkansas Florida Georgia Kentucky Louisiana North Carolina Texas West Virginia

More information: Lynn.Anderson@SREB.org | (404) 879-5610

# **Higher Education**

### Student access programs and services

#### Academic Common Market

Provides in-state tuition access to degree programs not available in a student's home state. During 2014, approximately 1,900 degree programs were available, 150 institutions participated and nearly 2,500 new students were certified for study.

SREB states that participate in the Academic Common Market:

Alabama	Kentucky	South Carolina
Arkansas	Louisiana	Tennessee
Delaware	Maryland	Texas*
Florida*	Mississippi	Virginia
Georgia	Oklahoma	West Virginia

\* Graduate-level only

#### **Regional Contract Program**

Gives students in SREB states the opportunity to earn a professional health degree from participating institutions in other states at in-state tuition rates. SREB is the fiscal agent and handles administrative duties without additional fees to the states, institutions or students. More than 700 students participate each academic year.

SREB states with institutions that provide programs for RCP:

Alabama	Kentucky	Oklahoma
Florida	Louisiana	Tennessee
Georgia	Mississippi	Texas

SREB states with participating students:

Arkansas	Kentucky
Delaware	Louisiana
Georgia	Mississippi

South Carolina West Virginia

#### **Electronic Campus**

Partners with colleges and universities to give students access to almost 37,000 online courses and more than 3,400 online degree programs.

All 16 SREB states participate in the Electronic Campus and are listed with the number of programs they provide as of April 2015:

Alabama, 341	Mississippi, 61
Arkansas, 93	North Carolina, 503
Delaware, 11	Oklahoma, 17
Florida, 654	South Carolina, 52
Georgia, 347	Texas, 631
Kentucky, 160	Tennessee, 221
Louisiana, 130	Virginia, 74
Maryland, 136	West Virginia, 23

#### **SREB Electronic Campus Regional Reciprocity Agreement**

SREB member states may opt in to the SREB Electronic Campus Regional Reciprocity Agreement (SECRRA) for state authorization to offer online courses in other states. *All SREB states participate in SECRRA*.

A new nationwide system of reciprocity, the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), available to SREB states, will open more high-quality online offerings for students and ease regulatory burden on institutions.

In October 2014, the first three SREB states were approved as members of SARA:

Louisiana Virginia West Virginia

More information: Mary.Larson@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1083

### **Education data services**

#### SREB-State Data Exchange

Collects, compiles and disseminates statistics on a variety of postsecondary education indicators. Postsecondary agencies from each SREB state are invited to participate and appoint Data Exchange coordinators. Data from each SREB state are updated annually on a wide range of policy topics: degree and certificate completion, student persistence and progression, time- and credits-to-degree, student credit hours (including those taken by students still in high school), tuition and fee levels and policies, and faculty salaries.

All 16 SREB states — and 23 agencies in them — participate.

#### **SREB Fact Book on Higher Education**

One of the nation's most comprehensive collections of comparative data, the *Fact Book* keeps policymakers informed with trend data for all 50 states on the population and economy, enrollment, degrees, student tuition and financial aid, faculty and administrators, as well as revenue and expenditures. The *Fact Book* — and *Featured Facts* reports for each SREB member state — are printed biennially, and *Fact Book* tables are updated regularly at SREB.org/Data. *Fact Book Bulletins* periodically update state leaders on key issues.

#### More information: Susan.Lounsbury@SREB.org | (404) 879-5546 | SREB.org/Data

### Nursing education

#### **Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing**

Helps expand and strengthen schools of nursing at colleges and universities to reduce the critical shortage of nurse educators needed to educate registered nurses. The Council surveys institutions for nursing education trends and shares online graduate nursing courses.

All 16 SREB states participate and are listed with the number of member institutions as of June 2014:

Alabama, 12	Louisiana, 9	Tennessee, 12
Arkansas, 6	Maryland, 4	Texas, 10
Delaware, 1	Mississippi, 10	Virginia, 6
Florida, 9	North Carolina, 6	West Virginia, 3
Georgia, 18	Oklahoma, 1	
Kentucky, 5	South Carolina, 6	

More information: Eula.Aiken@SREB.org | (404) 879-5567 | SREB.org/Nursing

### Minority Ph.D. scholars

#### SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program

Supports minority doctoral students to earn their Ph.D.s, find employment and improve the diversity of college faculty. Hosts the annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, the nation's largest gathering of minority Ph.D. scholars, with more than 1,200 attendees.

#### SREB states and their participation:

#### Alabama

Scholars supported since joining: 162 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 15

Arkansas Scholars supported since joining: 92 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 7

#### Delaware

Scholars supported since joining: 2 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 0

#### Florida

Scholars supported since joining: 2 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 0

**Georgia** Scholars supported since joining: 150 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 35

Kentucky Scholars supported since joining: 121 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 11 **Louisiana** Scholars supported since joining: 142 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 27

**Maryland** Scholars supported since joining: 42 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 1

**Mississippi** Scholars supported since joining: 67 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 5

**North Carolina** Scholars supported since joining: 5 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 0

**Oklahoma** Scholars supported since joining: 26 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 4 **South Carolina** Scholars supported since joining: 106 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 13

**Tennessee** Scholars supported since joining: 102 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 15

**Texas** Scholars supported since joining: 10 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 0

**Virginia** Scholars supported since joining: 111 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 9

West Virginia Scholars supported since joining: 55 Scholars funded in 2014-15: 11

More information: Ansley.Abraham@SREB.org | (404) 879-5573 | SREB.org/DoctoralScholars

# **Interstate Cooperatives**

#### **Go Alliance**

An interstate cooperative to increase high school graduation rates, access to education beyond high school, and postsecondary degree completion — particularly for those who would be the first in their families to enroll in higher education. Go Alliance research and services focus on college access policy, student support programs and communications strategies to motivate students to plan for and apply to postsecondary education.

SREB states that participate in Go Alliance:

Alabama Delaware Georgia Louisiana

Maryland Mississippi North Carolina Oklahoma South Carolina Tennessee West Virginia

More information: AliceAnne.Bailey@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/GoAlliance

### **Technology Purchasing Savings**

SREB partners with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact so SREB states may participate in MHECtech discount agreements. Schools, universities and agencies saved 3 percent to 18 percent on a regionwide total of \$17 million in technology purchases during fiscal year 2014.

#### MHECtech purchases by state, fiscal year 2014:

Alabama: \$701,000	Louisiana: \$452,500	Tennessee
Arkansas: \$342,500	Maryland: \$948,300	Texas: \$3,
Delaware: \$143,600	Mississippi: \$164,500	Virginia: \$
Florida: \$2,263,600	North Carolina: \$1,801,100	West Virg
Georgia: \$4,435,300	Oklahoma: \$234,700	
Kentucky: \$666,700	South Carolina: \$309,849	

Tennessee: \$762,200 Texas: \$3,040,600 Virginia: \$1,263,800 West Virginia: \$40,600

#### More information: Camille.Martin@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1697

#### **Educational Technology Cooperative**

Membership group of state higher education and K-12 coordinating and governing boards representing more than 800 colleges and universities and 3,100 school districts in SREB member states. The ETC focuses member agencies and state policymakers on using technology wisely, reports on educational technology topics and connects members.

Members are state departments of education and governing or coordinating higher education boards in SREB states:

#### Alabama

Alabama State Department of Education Alabama Commission on Higher Education

#### Arkansas

Arkansas Department of Education Arkansas Department of Higher Education

**Florida** Florida Virtual Campus

**Georgia** Technical College System of Georgia University System of Georgia

#### Kentucky

Kentucky Department of Education Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education

**Louisiana** Louisiana Board of Regents

Maryland Maryland Higher Education Commission

**Mississippi** Mississippi Community College Board Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

#### North Carolina

North Carolina Department of Public Instruction North Carolina Community College System University of North Carolina

#### Oklahoma

Oklahoma Office of Management and Enterprise Services Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

#### South Carolina

South Carolina State Department of Education South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

**Tennessee** Tennessee Board of Regents

**Texas** Texas Education Agency Texas Virtual School Network Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

**West Virginia** West Virginia Department of Education West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

# Leadership

#### Members of the Board

The Board includes the governor and four gubernatorial appointees from each member state, including at least one state legislator and one educator. *Members as of May 2015:* 

Steve Beshear, Governor, Kentucky, Chair

Joe H. Pickens, President, St. Johns River State College, Florida, *Vice Chair* Robert H. Plymale, State Senator, West Virginia, *Treasurer* 

#### Alabama

Robert Bentley, Governor
\* Alan Baker, State Representative Tommy Bice, State Superintendent of Education Jackie Kinney, Federal Programs Director, Morgan County Schools
Caroline Novak, President, A+ Education Partnership

#### Arkansas

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Joyce Elliott, State Senator Johnnie Roebuck, Former State Legislator and Retired Educator Herman Strickland, Jonesboro Donnie Whitten, School Superintendent, Arkadelphia Public Schools

#### Delaware

Jack Markell, Governor Mark T. Murphy, Secretary of Education Robert W. Rescigno, Assistant Professor, Wilmington University Darryl M. Scott, Former State Representative

\* David P. Sokola, State Senator

#### Florida

Rick Scott, Governor Nancy C. Detert, State Senator Erik Fresen, State Representative

- \* John Legg, State Senator
- \* Joe H. Pickens, President, St. Johns River State College

#### Georgia

Nathan Deal, Governor

Matt Arthur, Deputy Commissioner, Technical College System of Georgia Terry England, State Representative

- Jack Hill, State Senator Henry M. "Hank" Huckaby, Chancellor, Board of
  - Regents of the University System of Georgia

#### Kentucky

- \* Steve Beshear, Governor
   Wayne D. Andrews, President, Morehead State University
   Mary Ann Blankenship, Executive Director, Kentucky Education Association
   Derrick W. Graham, State Representative
- \* Joseph U. Meyer, Covington

#### Louisiana

Bobby Jindal, Governor

 Francis C. Thompson, State Senator John C. White, State Superintendent of Education Sandra K. Woodley, President, University of Louisiana System Vacancy (2018)

#### Maryland

Larry Hogan, Governor

William E. Kirwan, Chancellor, University System of Maryland

Lillian M. Lowery, State Superintendent of Schools Catherine M. Shultz, Annapolis Vacancy (2015)

\* Executive Committee member

#### Mississippi

Phil Bryant, Governor
\* Terry C. Burton, State Senator
Videt Carmichael, State Senator
Charles L. Harrison, Educational Consultant, The Excellence Group
Vacancy (2015)

#### North Carolina

Pat McCrory, Governor Dan J. Forest, Lieutenant Governor Linda P. Johnson, State Representative

\* Howard N. Lee, President, Howard N. Lee Institute for Equity and Opportunity in Education

Adeniyi Ojutiku, Associate Professor of Health Education, University of Phoenix

#### Oklahoma

Mary Fallin, Governor

Glen D. Johnson, Chancellor,
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
Clark Jolley, State Senator
Jennifer Monies, Executive Director, Oklahoma
Educated Workforce Initiative
Vacancy (2016)

#### South Carolina

Nikki Haley, Governor Melanie Barton, Executive Director, Education Oversight Committee

 Nikki G. Setzler, State Senator
 Mitchell M. Zais, Former State Superintendent of Education
 Vacancy (2015)

#### Tennessee

Bill Haslam, Governor

 \* Harry Ray Brooks, State Representative Beth Cox, Member, Sumner County School Board Krissy DeAlejandro, Executive Director, tnAchieves Yvonne Wood, Member, Women's Economic

#### Texas

Greg Abbott, Governor

**Council Foundation** 

\* Jimmie Don Aycock, State Representative Daniel H. Branch, Former State Representative Rob Eissler, Former State Representative Michael L. Williams, Commissioner of Education

#### Virginia

Terry McAuliffe, Governor Janet D. Howell, State Senator Chris B. Saxman, Executive Director, Virginia Foundation for Research and Economic

Education

Glenda R. Scales, Associate Dean,

Global Engagment and Chief Technology Office, College of Enginerring at Virginia Tech

Alvin Williamson, Commandant,

Fork Union Military Academy

#### West Virginia

Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor

Thomas W. Campbell, Member, West Virginia State Board of Education

Paul Hill, Chancellor, Higher Education Policy Commission

\* Robert H. Plymale, State Senator Roman W. Prezioso Jr., State Senator

#### Legislative Advisory Council Members

SREB's Legislative Advisory Council of legislators from each state advises the Board. *Members as of May 2015:* 

Joyce Elliott, State Senator, Arkansas, *Chair* Tom Dickson, State Representative, Georgia, *Vice Chair* 

Alan Baker, State Representative Brewton, Alabama Dick Brewbaker, State Senator Montgomery, Alabama Terri Collins, State Representative Decatur, Alabama Randy Davis, State Representative Daphne, Alabama Vivian Davis Figures, State Senator Mobile, Alabama Trip Pittman, State Senator Montrose, Alabama Rod Scott, State Representative Fairfield, Alabama

Charles L. Armstrong, State Representative Little Rock, Arkansas Eddie L. Cheatham, State Senator Crossett, Arkansas Joyce Elliott, State Senator Little Rock, Arkansas Sheilla E. Lampkin, State Representative Monticello, Arkansas Bobby J. Pierce, State Senator Sheridan, Arkansas

F. Gary Simpson, State Senator *Milford, Delaware* David P. Sokola, State Senator *Newark, Delaware* 

Nancy C. Detert, State Senator *Venice, Florida* Erik Fresen, State Representative *Miami, Florida* John Legg, State Senator *New Port Richey, Florida*  Tom Dickson, State Representative Cohutta, Georgia Terry England, State Representative Auburn, Georgia Jack Hill, State Senator Reidsville, Georgia Fran Millar, State Senator Dunwoody, Georgia

John "Bam" Carney, State Representative Campbellsville, Kentucky Derrick W. Graham, State Representative Frankfort, Kentucky Jody Richards, State Representative Bowling Green, Kentucky Wilson Stone, State Representative Scottsville, Kentucky Johnny Ray Turner, State Senator Prestonsburg, Kentucky Mike Wilson, State Senator Bowling Green, Kentucky Max Wise, State Senator Campbellsville, Kentucky

Austin J. Badon Jr., State Representative New Orleans, Louisiana Gerald Long, State Senator Winnfield, Louisiana Ben W. Nevers, State Senator Bogalusa, Louisiana Francis C. Thompson, State Senator Delhi, Louisiana

Sheila Ellis Hixson, State Delegate *Silver Spring, Maryland* Edward J. Kasemeyer, State Senator *Arbutus, Maryland*  Terry C. Burton, State Senator Newton, Mississippi Videt Carmichael, State Senator Meridian, Mississippi Herbert D. Frierson, State Representative Poplarville, Mississippi Nolan Mettetal, State Representative Sardis, Mississippi John L. Moore, State Representative Brando, Mississippi

Tamara Barringer, State Senator *Cary, North Carolina* Hugh Blackwell, State Representative *Valdese, North Carolina* D. Craig Horn, State Representative *Weddington, North Carolina* Linda P. Johnson, State Representative *Kannapolis, North Carolina* Dan Soucek, State Senator *Boone, North Carolina* 

Ann Coody, State Representative Lawton, Oklahoma Lee Denney, State Representative Cushing, Oklahoma John Ford, State Senator Bartlesville, Oklahoma Jim Halligan, State Senator Stillwater, Oklahoma Clark Jolley, State Senator Edmond, Oklahoma Gary Stanislawski, State Senator Tulsa, Oklahoma Todd Thomsen, State Representative Ada, Oklahoma John W. Matthews Jr., State Senator *Bowman, South Carolina* Nikki G. Setzler, State Senator *West Columbia, South Carolina* 

Harry Ray Brooks, State Representative *Knoxville, Tennessee* Reginald Tate, State Senator *Memphis, Tennessee* Mark White, State Representative *Memphis, Tennessee* 

Jimmie Don Aycock, State Representative *Killeen, Texas* Donna Campbell, State Senator *New Braunfels, Texas* Marsha Farney, State Representative *Georgetown, Texas* 

David L. Bulova, State Delegate Fairfax, Virginia Thomas A. Greason, State Delegate Lansdowne, Virginia Janet Howell, State Senator Reston, Virginia Mamie E. Locke, State Senator Hampton, Virginia Jennifer L. McClellan, State Delegate Richmond, Virginia

Robert H. Plymale, State Senator *Huntington, West Virginia* Roman W. Prezioso Jr., State Senator *Fairmont, West Virginia* 

# SREB Reports, 2014-15

*Credentials for All: An Imperative for SREB States* Report of the SREB Commission on Career and Technical Education

Community Colleges in the South: Strengthening Readiness and Pathways Report of the SREB Community College Commission

Taking Stock and Pushing Forward: 2014 State Progress Reports on the Challenge to Lead 2020 Goals for Education

Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards, Aligned Assessments and Related Reforms

Cross-State Findings Timeline and Approach to Standards and Assessments Aligned Teaching Resources Professional Development Evaluation of Teachers and Leaders Accountability

High School to College and Careers, 2014

*The ACT and SAT: No Longer Just College Admission Tests*  Notes on School Finance: Selected Information on Funding for Low-Income Students

*Compulsory Attendance Policies: About Age or Intervention?* 

*SREB Readiness Courses: Transitioning to College and Careers* 

Affordability of Public Higher Education in SREB States

Students Step Up When Teachers and Leaders Transform Classrooms: Literacy Design Collaborative and Mathematics Design Collaborative

Toward Trustworthy and Transformative Classroom Observations

Legislative Reports and Legislative Briefings

*The Southern Regional Education Board and Member States* 

# Funding

Appropriations from each member state support core operations and services. SREB leverages the longstanding commitments of states to attract external funding (on average, 14 times base funding) in external grants and contracts for specific education improvement projects available to member states. SREB gratefully acknowledges support from member states and the following in 2014-15.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation Lamar Plunkett Family Lumina Foundation National Aeronautics Space Administration National Institutes of Health National Science Foundation Pearson Charitable Foundation Pew Charitable Trust U.S. Department of Education

# **SREB Programs and Services**

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Electronic Campus Mary.Larson@SREB.org (404) 875-9211 | ElectronicCampus.org

Fact Book on Higher Education | Data Exchange Susan.Lounsbury@SREB.org (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Data

**Go Alliance** AliceAnne.Bailey@SREB.org (404) 879-5601 | SREB.org/GoAlliance

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Learning-Centered Leadership Program Jon.Schmidt-Davis@SREB.org (404) 879-5591 | SREB.org/Leadership

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Making Middle Grades Work Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/MMGW

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SECRRA: SREB Electronic Campus Regional Reciprocity Agreement Mary.Larson@SREB.org (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/SARA

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Summer Staff Development Conference Anna.Johnston@SREB.org (404) 962-9629| SREB.org/SummerConference

**Technology, Insurance Purchasing Savings** Camille.Martin@SREB.org (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1697

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### Southern Regional Education Board States

Alabama Arkansas Delaware Florida Georgia Kentucky Louisiana Maryland Mississippi North Carolina Oklahoma South Carolina Tennessee Texas Virginia West Virginia



# SREB

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SREB.org

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