



Quick Guide to Georgia State Government

Structure of Government

Georgia operates under a **constitutional, bicameral system** with three branches: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial.

Executive Branch

The Executive Branch is responsible for enforcing state laws.

Statewide Constitutional Officers:

- **Governor** – Chief executive of the state, signs or vetoes legislation; controls budget priorities
- **Lieutenant Governor** – Presides over the Senate and assigns committees
- **Secretary of State** – Oversees elections, corporations, and licensing
- **Attorney General** – Chief legal officer
- **Commissioner of Agriculture**
- **Commissioner of Insurance**
- **State School Superintendent**

Most statewide officers are elected to **four-year terms**.

Legislative Branch – Georgia General Assembly

The General Assembly makes state law and approves the budget.

Georgia Senate

- 56 members
- Led by the **Lieutenant Governor**

Georgia House of Representatives

- 180 members
- Led by the **Speaker of the House**

Session Details

- Convenes annually in January
- Limited to **40 legislative days**
- Most policy work occurs in **committees**



Lawmaking Process (At a Glance)

1. Bill introduced in House or Senate
2. Committee consideration
3. Floor vote in first chamber
4. Consideration in second chamber
5. Conference committee (if needed)
6. Governor signs or vetoes