



80th ANNUAL
**SOUTHERN
LEGISLATIVE
CONFERENCE**

JULY 11-15, 2026 | KENTUCKY



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

AS YOUR 2025-2026 CHAIRMAN, IT IS MY HONOR TO WELCOME YOU TO KENTUCKY!

At the crossroads of Southern tradition and forward progress, Lexington stands as a proud reflection of the Commonwealth itself—rooted in heritage, strengthened by innovation, and defined by the character of its people. Set in the heart of the Bluegrass, Lexington offers an ideal setting for meaningful dialogue, collaboration, and shared purpose. Known the world over as the Horse Capital and home to America's finest bourbon, Kentucky represents excellence born from dedication and craftsmanship. From its rolling pastures and historic farms to its growing industries and thriving communities, the Commonwealth embodies both the strength of its past and the promise of its future.

The past decade has marked a period of notable progress for Kentucky—driven by hard work, partnership,

and an enduring commitment to growth. Among those partnerships, CSG South continues to play an important role in uniting leaders across the region. The Southern Legislative Conference remains the premier forum for legislators and staff to exchange ideas, strengthen relationships, and advance sound policy for the good of our states and the South. Every corner of Kentucky tells a story of pride and perseverance.

On behalf of the Bluegrass State, I extend a warm welcome to my colleagues from CSG South's 15 member states. We are honored to host you and invite you to experience the spirit, tradition, and hospitality that make Lexington—and Kentucky—so distinctive.

Welcome to the Commonwealth of Kentucky!



House Speaker Pro Tempore

DAVID MEADE

Kentucky

CSG South Chair, 2025-2026

IMPORTANT DATES

- **May 1** – Last day to register with discounted rates.
- **April 15** – Last day to apply for the State Transformation in Action Recognition (STAR) Award (please see back cover for more details).
- **June 24** – Last day to register online (**after June 24, registration takes place onsite beginning July 11**).
- **June 19** – Last day to submit a proposed policy position (please see back cover for more details).

CANCELLATION POLICY

- Cancellations must be submitted online **by June 24**.
- Registration fees for cancellations submitted **by May 1** will be fully refunded.
- Registration fees for cancellations submitted **after May 1** but **before June 24** will be refunded minus an administrative fee of \$100.
- Cancellations submitted **after June 24** and no-shows are **not eligible** for a refund.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

- **To reserve a hotel room, you must first register for the conference.** After completion, a link for booking your hotel room at a discounted rate will be emailed to you.
- Rooms are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Rooms are available at a discounted rate until **Friday, June 12 or until sold out**.
- The 2026 Southern Legislative Conference will take place at the Central Bank Convention Center.

REGISTRATION OPENS

FEBRUARY 2nd!

Visit www.csgsouth.org or scan this code to register



REGISTRATION FEES

PRIMARY REGISTRANTS	FEB 2- MAY 1 EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FEES	MAY 2- JULY 24 AFTER EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FEES
Legislator	\$500	\$550
Host State Legislator	\$400	\$450
Government Staff	\$500	\$550
Host State Government Staff	\$400	\$450
CALS (2023, 2024)	NO FEE	NO FEE
CALS (2022 & before)	\$300	\$350
SAGE (2023, 2024)	NO FEE	NO FEE
SAGE (2022 & before)	\$300	\$350
Public Sector	\$500	\$550
Private Sector	\$1200	\$1300
Non-Profit	\$750	\$850
Daily Public Sector	\$350	\$400
Daily Private Sector	\$550	\$550
Daily Non-Profit	\$450	\$450
Contributer (based on contribution level)	NO FEE	NO FEE
CSG Leadership Circle (up to 4 attendees)	NO FEE	NO FEE
CSG Premier Associate (up to 2 attendees)	NO FEE	NO FEE
CSG Associate (1 attendee per organization/company)	NO FEE	NO FEE
Additional CSG Associate	\$900	\$900
CLEs	\$40	\$60
Media	\$1200	\$1300

SPOUSES, GUESTS & YOUTH

Legislator/Government Staff Spouse	\$0	\$50
Guest (ages 18 and up)	\$500	\$550
Youth (ages 6 - 17)	\$0	\$0

2026 SLC CONFERENCE SCHEDULE*

SATURDAY | 7/11

- Registration **9:00 am - 7:00 pm**
- Guest & Youth Lounge **Noon - 5:00 pm**
- Staff Alliance Intergovernmental Leadership (SAIL) Meeting **1:00 pm - 3:30 pm**
- Policy Session 1-4 **2:30 pm - 4:00 pm**
- Executive Committee Session **3:30 pm - 5:30 pm**
- Government Staff & New Attendee Reception **4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**
- Opening Reception **6:30 pm - 10:30 pm**

GUEST & YOUTH ACTIVITIES BEGIN SUNDAY, JULY 12.
PLEASE VISIT CSGSOUTH.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS.

SUNDAY | 7/12

- Registration **8:00 am - 5:00 pm**
- Guest & Youth Lounge **8:00 am - 5:00 pm**
- Government Staff Track 1 **9:00 am - 10:15 am**
- Committee Business Breakfasts & Roundtables **9:00 am - 10:00 am**
- Policy Session 5 **9:00 am - 10:00 am**
- Opening Plenary **10:30 am - 11:30 am**
- Legislative Service Agency (LSA) Director's Group Meeting & Luncheon **11:30 am - 1:30 pm**
- Policy Plenary Luncheon **Noon - 1:30 pm**
- Policy Session 6-9 **2:00 pm - 3:30 pm**
- CALS/SAGE Reception **4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**
- Family Night **6:30 pm - 9:30 pm**

MONDAY | 7/13

- Registration **8:00 am - 5:00 pm**
- Guest & Youth Lounge **8:00 am - 5:00 pm**
- Committee Business Breakfasts & Roundtables **9:00 am - 10:00 am**
- Supreme Court Update **9:00 am - 10:30 am**
- Campaign Against Hunger **10:30 am - 11:30 am**
- Women in Leadership Forum **Noon - 1:30 pm**
- Policy Session 10-12 **2:00 pm - 3:30 pm**
- Government Staff Track 3 **2:00 pm - 3:30 pm**
- Incoming Host State Night **GEORGIA** **9:00 pm - 11:00 pm**
- Departure day **No programmatic events scheduled**

TUESDAY | 7/14

- Registration **9:00 am - 11:00 am**
- Guest & Youth Lounge **8:00 am - 5:00 pm**
- Closing Plenary Breakfast & Executive Officer Elections **9:00 am - 10:15 am**
- Executive Committee Business Meeting **After Closing Plenary** **No later than 10:30 am**
- Government Staff Track 4 **10:30 am - 12:00 pm**
- Policy Site Visits **11:30 am - 4:00 pm**
- International Relations Forum **Noon - 1:30 pm**
- STAR Award Judges Panel **2:00 pm - 3:30 pm**
- Closing Reception & State Dinner **(with special performance)** **6:00 pm - 10:30 pm**

*These dates and times may change slightly as we continue to plan.

NOTES

- Primary participants may not register colleagues as guests, and **only up to 2 non-family adult guests are permitted per each primary registrant**.
- Children 5 and under** cannot participate in the Youth Program.
- Children under 18** not permitted to State Dinner.

Follow us for the latest news and updates!



The Council of State Governments

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 CSGSouth



Southern Legislative Conference

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

THE SOUTHERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE (SLC)

is the largest regional gathering of legislative members and staff hosted by CSG South. SLC boasts an array of well-established programs—focusing on both existing and emerging state government innovations and solutions—providing policymakers and government staff diverse opportunities to interact with experts and share their knowledge with colleagues.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Attending substantive policy sessions at SLC may qualify for Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits in CSG South member states. Attendees who intend to seek CLE credit will be required to pay an administrative fee at the time of registration. Please see the registration fee chart for pricing and select CLE option when registering.



State Transformation in Action Recognition

AN AWARD OF CSG SOUTH

WE THINK YOUR STATE IS A STAR!

Apply now to be considered for the 2026 State Transformation in Action Recognition (STAR) Award for innovative state government programs and services. Every year, states pioneer creative and transformational solutions to pressing issues, resulting in more efficient and effective state government.

Submissions are accepted from a wide array of state agencies, departments, and institutions operating within the executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

The STAR Award presents an opportunity to highlight successful programs implemented within your state, especially those with the potential for adaptation across state lines. Visit csgsouth.org/awards for more information. Application deadline is April 15.

POLICY POSITION PROPOSALS

CSG South policy positions reflect a regional consensus and give CSG South a voice on issues of regional and national urgency. Legislators may wish to propose policy positions that articulate specific positions, endorse specific policy practices, or comment on specific federal actions as they relate to the states. Proposed policy positions must be sent to the Director of Policy and Research by **June 19**.

Please visit csgsouth.org/policy-positions-2 for additional information regarding the consideration of proposed policy positions, examples of past policy positions, guidelines, and appropriate formatting for submissions.