

National Governors Association (NGA)

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Mission Statement: The National Governors Association, a bipartisan organization of the nation's governors, promotes visionary state leadership, shares best practices and speaks with a unified voice on national policy. NGA provides governors and their senior staff members with services that range from representing states on Capitol Hill and before the Administration on key federal issues to developing policy reports on innovative state programs and hosting networking seminars for state government executive branch officials. The NGA Center for Best Practices focuses on state innovations and best practices on issues that range from education and health to technology, welfare reform, and the environment. NGA also provides management and technical assistance to both new and incumbent governors.

History & General Information: The NGA was founded in 1908 and has four standing committees including the Education, Early Childhood and Workforce committee. The NGA Center for Best Practices has five divisions including one focusing on education. This division offers research and information on teacher quality, high school redesign, and other education reform topics.

SOURCE: www.nga.org

BASIC FACTS

Location Washington, DC

President/Director Ray Scheppach (Executive Director); John Thomasian (Director, Center for Best Practices)

Number of Staff 90

Membership Individual states and governors

FISCAL DATA

The National Governors Association Center for Best Practices is a 501(c)(3) Public Charity. The NGA's state-federal operations and its Center for Best Practices have separate funding streams. The NGA receives dues from individual states. These payments support the organization's state-federal operations. The NGA Center for Best Practices receives funding through federal grants and contracts and from contributions by foundations. A small percentage of the Center's funding comes from the NGA Corporate Fellows Program. For the tax year ending on June 30, 2005, the NGA Center for Best Practices received more than \$26 million in direct public support and had over \$32 million in total revenue.

Major Initiatives

Contact Information

A number of the National Governors Association's major educational efforts in recent years have focused on high school reform.

- High School Honor States Grant Program
- Compact on State High School Graduation Data
- 2004-05 NGA Chairman Gov. Mark Warner's initiative on Redesigning the American High School
- 2005 National Education Summit on High Schools

Recent reports and publications include:

- *Graduation Counts: A Report of the National Governors Association Task Force on State High School Graduation Data (2005)*
- *Reading to Achieve: A Governor's Guide to Adolescent Literacy (2005)*
- *Front & Center*, the NGA's weekly electronic magazine
- *Honoring Progress*, newsletter about the Honor States Grant Program

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Notes

Information gathered from the NGA's website www.nga.org. Some additional data collected from GuideStar at www.guidestar.org.