



GOVERNANCE TRAINING REQUIREMENT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the requirement?	Georgia law, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2084(f), requires that every member of a governing board of a state charter school participate in annual governing board training.	
Who must participate in governance training?	<p>Every member of a governing board of a state charter school must participate in annual governing board training. Board members who join a state charter school governing board after the second SCSC governance training opportunity are encouraged, but not required to, participate in governance training for that fiscal year.</p> <p><i>IMPORTANT NOTE: Administrators and school staff are encouraged to attend governance training with their governing board as doing so fosters a collaborative relationship between the governing board and school administration. However, school staff and administrators <u>are not required</u> to receive governance training.</i></p>	
How can school board members fulfill the requirement?	<u>OPTION 1</u>	<u>OPTION 2</u>
	Attend one of the two governing board training opportunities offered by the SCSC at no charge . REGISTER HERE	Use personal or school funds to make alternate training arrangements through a training provider approved by the State Board of Education.
	OPTION 2 is <u>not available</u> for newly-approved schools in their planning year i.e. Year 0.	
Who are the approved alternate training providers?	The list of training providers approved by the State Board of Education can be found here . Only governance training provided by providers approved by the State Board of Education to provide governance training to charter schools will meet SCSC governance training requirements.	
If I choose alternate training, what are my responsibilities?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Choose a provider that is approved to conduct governance training for the current fiscal year. Communicate SCSC- required content topics to your provider and ensure that the alternate training aligns with them. Ensure that you receive 12 contact hours of instruction. This means 12 hours of direct instruction whether in-person or virtually. Generally, this does NOT include reviewing a recorded training or independent study; however, <i>pre-recorded webinars can be used to satisfy up to 3 hours of training IF the provider is able to verify that the individual viewed the webinar.</i> Maintain verification of your participation in alternate training. You must have a certificate of completion/participation issued by an approved training provider and a syllabus for the alternate training you received. 	
What if I am not able to fully attend both days of governance training provided by the SCSC?	<p>If you are unable to fully attend SCSC governance training, you may make up the remainder of your required training hours either by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Arranging for your own alternate training through an SBOE approved provider or; Attendance at a professional conference whose content: a) aligns with the SCSC required topics and; b) is delivered by an approved training provider. <p>Board members who choose to split up their training hours in this way are responsible for keeping track of the number of training hours they get from each training opportunity as well as the content areas covered. Contact Kristen Easterbrook (kristen.easterbrook@scsc.georgia.gov) in advance if you will be combining training from different sources in this way.</p>	
When is the deadline for completion of the requirement?	Every governing board member holding office during the fiscal year must have fulfilled his or her governance training requirements by June 30 . State charter school boards must provide evidence of fulfillment of the requirement in their application for governance certification in the SCSC administrative portal. The governance certification application deadline will be communicated by SCSC staff.	

How does a governing board demonstrate compliance with the requirement?	<p>The governing board must apply for certification of governance training compliance in the SCSC Administrative portal at the end of the fiscal year by the deadline communicated by SCSC staff.</p> <p>Board members who fully attended SCSC training- Verification of your participation will already be on file.</p> <p>Board members who received training from an alternate provider- You must provide the following verifying information with your application:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. date of the training; 2. the contact hours of instruction provided by each course and; 3. topics covered by each session with supporting documents to demonstrate alignment with SCSC-required topics and; 4. certification of attendance from the training provider.
What if all but one member of a state charter school board fulfills the governance training requirement?	<p>The failure of <u>even one governing board member</u> to receive required governance training will negatively affect the school's operational compliance assessment. Every member of a governing board of a state charter school must participate in annual governing board training for that governing board to be compliant with the requirement. Accordingly, it is incumbent on all governing board members to hold their colleagues accountable for fulfilling the annual training requirements as the failure to do so will negatively impact the school.</p>
What are the consequences of failure to fulfill the governance training requirement?	<p>A state charter school that fails to fulfill the governance training requirement will be out of compliance with state law and operational requirements. This will be reflected through the school's assessment on the operational compliance portion of the SCSC Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF). Specifically, the school will <u>receive 0 points</u> in the governance training section of the operational compliance portion of the CPF.</p>
Can attendance at other SCSC trainings count toward the annual governance training requirement?	<p>No. state charter board members may not utilize alternate SCSC-provided training, such as strategic planning sessions, to supplant the annual governance training requirement. The SCSC governance trainings are specifically crafted to address the statutory obligations and unique roles and responsibilities of state charter governing board members.</p>
How is the SCSC governance training requirement different from the locally-approved charter governance training requirement?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State charter school governing board members are not required to receive 3 hours financial training through GaDOE's Finance & Budget Office (FBO). 2. State charter school governing board members are only required to get 12 hours of governance training annually regardless of whether they are new board members or board members of a newly-approved school.