
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Executive Order 8 (2002)

Establishing the Governor's Advisory Commission on Higher Education Board Appointments

The Commonwealth of Virginia is justifiably proud of its outstanding system of higher education. The hard work and dedication of the citizen boards that govern our higher education institutions has been an important part of their success. It is critical to the future success of higher education that we have governing bodies that are inclusive and reflect the diversity of our students, our professors, and our Commonwealth. To achieve our goal of having one of the best systems of higher education in the world, it is vitally important that members of higher education governing boards are selected based on merit, experience, sound judgment, and proven leadership.

By virtue of the authority vested in me under Article V of the *Constitution of Virginia*, and by Section 2.2-134 of the Code of Virginia, I hereby establish the Governor's Advisory Commission on Higher Education Board Appointments (the "Commission").

The Commission is classified as a gubernatorial advisory commission in accordance with Sections 2.2-134, 2.2-135, and 2.2-2100 of the Code of Virginia. The purpose of this Commission shall be to review and evaluate potential appointees to the governing bodies of Virginia's institutions of higher education, the Virginia Community College Board, and the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia.

The Commission shall have seven members appointed by the Governor and serving at his pleasure. In addition, the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall serve as non-voting ex-officio members of the Commission. Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation.

The Commission shall develop and implement a process for evaluating potential appointees to higher education governing boards based on substantive qualifications such as merit and experience. The Commission also shall make other recommendations to the Governor as may be appropriate.

The Commission shall make its recommendations to the Governor at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the term for which the Commission is making the recommendations. The Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall provide to the members of the Commission copies of resumes and correspondence it receives related to the relevant board appointments.

Such staff support as is necessary for the conduct of the Commission's work during the term of its existence shall be furnished by the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, with support from the Office of the Secretary of Education, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, and such other executive agencies as the Governor may designate. An estimated 1,200 hours of staff time will be required to support the commission.

Such funding as is necessary for the term of the Commission's existence shall be provided from sources, including both private and appropriated funds, contributed or appropriated for purposes related to the work of the Commission, as authorized by Section 2.2-135(B) of the *Code of Virginia*. Direct expenditures for the Commission's work are estimated to be \$8,000.

This Executive Order shall be effective upon its signing, and shall remain in full force and effect until February 6, 2003, unless amended or rescinded by further executive order. Given under my hand and under the Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia, this 7th day of February, 2002.

Mark R. Warner, Governor

Attest:

Secretary of the Commonwealth