

Section 2.1: Arizona State Government and Related Grants Management Roles and Responsibilities

Arizona's government organization closely models that of the United States federal government with three branches: executive, legislative and judicial.

Arizona's executive branch is headed by a governor, who is elected to a four-year term. The governor may serve any number of terms though no more than two in a row. Other elected executive officials include the Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Mine Inspector and a five member Corporation Commission.

The Arizona Legislature consists of a 30-member Senate and a 60-member House of Representatives. Each legislature covers a two-year period of two legislative sessions. During legislative session, legislators sponsor, debate and pass bills. Those bills that are passed by both chambers are sent to the Governor's Office. The governor decides whether to sign a bill into law or veto the bill. If the Governor doesn't do either, the bill automatically becomes law after 10 days.

The Arizona Supreme Court is the highest court in Arizona. The court currently consists of one chief justice, a vice chief justice, and five associate justices. Justices are appointed by the Governor to serve for a regular term of six years. The Arizona Court of Appeals, further divided into two divisions, is the intermediate court in the state. Division One is based in Phoenix and Division Two is based in Tucson.

More than 90 state agencies perform administrative and regulatory functions that serve the citizens and business community of Arizona. Some agencies are large with broad-based missions and more than 1,000 employees throughout the state (Department of Economic

Security, Department of Transportation, Department of Public Safety, Department of Corrections) and others are small with very focused missions (technical boards and commissions).

Each entity that comprises the government of the State of Arizona plays a critical role in the grants management enterprise. The subsections of this chapter highlight the roles and responsibilities of the more influential state government players in grants management and administration: the Governor's Office and Executive Departments; Other Elected Officials; and Agencies, Boards and Commissions. Collectively, these agencies manage billions of dollars in grant funding.