



The CSG Interstate Compact Process

Interstate compacts derive the greatest level of viability, value and durability from a stakeholder informed, transparent, and consensus-based process. The Council of State Governments National Center for Interstate Compacts uses the following methodology in its development of a compact through the start of compact commission operations.

Compact Development

1 Conduct Project Research

CSG will conduct research, as well as provide analysis and support, to the project organization(s) to assist in understanding the scope of the proposed interstate compact. This assistance features a detailed examination of strengths, barriers, benefits, impacts, historical data, timelines and other extraordinary or specialized data identified by the project organization(s).

2 Develop and Convene a Technical Assistance Group to Study Impacts

CSG, in partnership with the project organization(s), will form a technical assistance group to review the project research, examine the issues and current policy spectrum, explore best practices and alternative structures, and develop recommendations for the draft interstate compact. The technical assistance group is composed of approximately 20 subject matter experts, project organization(s), partner organizations, policy-makers, elected officials and other stakeholders whose presence is considered necessary by the project organization(s).

3 Develop and Convene a Document Team

In consultation with the project organization(s), CSG will form a document team to write the interstate compact. The document team is composed of approximately eight individuals, and supported by CSG attorneys and staff. The document team will craft an interstate compact that conforms to standard and accepted interstate compact language and structures based on the policy provisions recommended by the technical assistance group.

4 Stakeholder Review

CSG will conduct an extensive and transparent stakeholder review process for the draft interstate compact. The stakeholder review process is open to the public and all responses will be accepted. CSG will also solicit feedback on the proposed draft compact from identified stakeholders and interested parties. CSG will organize the comments before reconvening the document team to analyze the feedback and deciding if the issues raised warrant changes to the draft document.

5 Document Finalization

The document team will complete a final draft of the interstate compact after completing its analysis of the comments from the stakeholder review process. CSG will reconvene the technical assistance group to review the proposed final draft of the compact, the stakeholder review feedback, its recommendations to the document team, the project scope materials, and research to complete the process and finalize the compact.

Compact Dissemination

Plan and Convene a Legislative Briefing

CSG, in partnership with the project organization(s), will plan and convene a legislative briefing for legislators, legislative staff, executive branch officials and relevant stakeholder groups to provide an overview of the project, the new interstate compact, and address policy and operational questions regarding the compact such as constitutionality, impacts to state sovereignty, rulemaking provisions and potential financial implications of enactment.

Create Legislative Resource Kit

CSG, in partnership with the project organization(s), will create a legislative resource kit that will serve as an informational resource hub for the new interstate compact. The resource kit components will include:

- Project background and development process.
- Text of the compact model legislation.
- Frequently asked questions.
- Talking points for stakeholders to share with legislators and policymakers.
- Advisory group and drafting team members.
- Letters of support, endorsements, press and other news media clips, resolutions, etc.
- Informational documents, fact sheets and educational materials.
- Primers on compact legal issues, constitutional issues and/or sovereignty issues.
- Key contacts.
- Talking points.

Advise on Legislative Enactment

CSG, in partnership with the project organization(s), will develop a resource to support introduction of the new interstate compact legislation. The resource will include the identification of primary legislative sponsors and/or supporters, legislative staff contacts and external stakeholder contacts.

Provide Legislative Tracking and Support

CSG will track introductions of the interstate compact legislation and provide technical support to state legislative staff to ensure legislation conforms to standard and accepted interstate compact language at the time it is introduced. CSG will follow the legislation throughout the legislative process to ensure that no substantive amendments or other changes are made to the interstate compact legislation.

Attend and Provide Overview at Legislative Hearings/Meetings

CSG will attend legislative hearings and/or other relevant stakeholder meetings where opportunities exist to educate policymakers and stakeholders about the interstate agreement. CSG will provide information in an education only format to provide an overview and details about the initiative, as well as to respond to specific policy and operational questions regarding the compact. These questions may include details on constitutionality, impacts to state sovereignty, rulemaking provisions and potential financial implications of enactment.

CSG will continue its work on compact dissemination activities as needed by the project organizations and/or interstate commission.

Interstate Commission and Interim Staffing Support

CSG will oversee the process of operationalizing the interstate compact commission to ensure proper adherence to the provisions of the compact. CSG will manage state notifications, commissioner appointments by member states, drafting of commission bylaws and rules, meeting planning, development of the meeting agenda, public notice of the commission meeting, preliminary business docket and more.

CSG will convene the inaugural interstate commission meeting and advise the commission on the approval of commission

bylaws and rules, committee structure and membership, budget and finance formulas, additional education in the states and other deliverables identified by the interstate commission.

CSG will provide interim staffing to support the commission until it is able to hire permanent staffing, which includes a secretariat and executive director.

