

§ 23-231.24. Southern Virginia Higher Education Center created; duties.

From such funds as may be appropriated, the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center, previously established as an off-campus center of Longwood University, is hereby continued as an educational institution in the Commonwealth and shall be referred to in this chapter as the "Center." The Center shall:

1. Encourage the expansion of higher education, including adult and continuing education, associate, undergraduate, and graduate degree programs in the region, and foster partnerships between the public and private sectors to enhance higher education in the region;
2. Coordinate the development and delivery of continuing education programs offered by those educational institutions serving the region;
3. Facilitate the delivery of teacher training programs leading to licensure and graduate degrees;
4. Serve as a resource and referral center by maintaining and disseminating information on existing educational programs and resources; and
5. Develop, in coordination with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, specific goals for higher education in Southside Virginia.

(2005, cc. 774, 799.)

§ [23-231.25](#). Membership of governing board; terms; compensation; officers.

A. The Center shall be governed by a 15-member Board of Trustees, consisting of the Director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia or his designee; the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System or his designee; the presidents or chancellors, as appropriate, or their designees of Longwood University, Danville Community College, and Southside Virginia Community College; the division superintendent of Halifax County public schools; two members of the House of Delegates to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; one member of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; and six nonlegislative citizen members to be appointed by the Governor, including the chairman and two other members of the Halifax Education Foundation, and three representatives of business and industry. The Speaker of the House of Delegates may appoint an alternate for the Delegate appointed to the Center. The alternate shall serve a term coincident with the term of the Delegate and shall have the power to act in his absence. The Senate Committee on Rules may appoint an alternate for the Senator appointed to the Center. The alternate shall serve a term coincident with the term of the Senator and shall have the power to act in his absence.

Nonlegislative citizen members of the Board shall be chosen from among residents of the Southside region of the Commonwealth and shall be citizens of the Commonwealth.

B. Legislative members and the representatives of the Council, the Virginia Community College System, and the named institutions of higher education shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office. After the initial staggering of terms, all nonlegislative citizen appointments shall be for terms of four years, except that appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired terms. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

No nonlegislative citizen member of the Board shall be eligible to serve more than two successive four-year terms, but after the expiration of the remainder of a term to which appointed to fill a vacancy, two additional four-year terms may be served by such member if appointed thereto.

C. Nonlegislative citizen members shall not be entitled to compensation for their services. Legislative members of the Board shall be compensated as provided in § [30-19.12](#), and all members of the Board shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in the work of the Center as provided in §§ [2.2-2813](#) and [2.2-2825](#). The funding for the costs of compensation and expenses of the members shall be provided by the Center.

D. The Board shall elect a chairman and a vice-chairman from among its members.

(2005, cc. [774](#), [799](#); 2006, c. 160.)

§ 23-231.26. Powers of Board; contracts for educational services.

A. The Board of Trustees shall have, in addition to its other powers, all the corporate powers given to corporations by the provisions of Title 13.1, except in those cases where, by the express terms of its provisions, it is confined to corporations created under that title. The Board shall also have the power to accept, execute, and administer any trust in which it may have an interest under the terms of the instrument creating the trust.

B. The Board shall have the authority to establish and administer agreements with public and private institutions of higher education for the provision of associate, undergraduate, and graduate degree instructional programs at the Center.

(2005, cc. [774](#), [799](#).)

§ 23-231.27. Executive director; powers and duties; staff.

A. The Board shall appoint an executive director for the Center who shall supervise and manage the Center and shall prepare and submit, upon direction and approval by the Board, all requests for appropriations. The Executive Director of the Center shall be authorized to employ such staff as necessary to enable the Center to perform its duties as set forth in this chapter. The Board is

authorized to determine the duties of such staff and to fix salaries and compensation from such funds as may be appropriated or received.

B. Additional staff support for the functions of the Center may be provided upon agreement by Longwood University, Danville Community College, and Southside Virginia Community College.

(2005, cc. [774](#), [799](#).)

§ 23-231.28. Application for and acceptance of gifts and grants.

The Board is authorized on behalf of the Center to apply for, accept, and expend gifts, grants, or donations from public or private sources to enable it to carry out its objectives.

(2005, cc. [774](#), [799](#).)

§ 23-231.29. Cooperation of other agencies.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate with the Center, and, upon request, assist the Center in the performance of its duties and responsibilities.

(2005, cc. [774](#), [799](#).)