



Federalism Commission

Statutory Overview | May 21, 2026

Statutory Framework

Enabling Statute: Utah Code Section [63C-4a-302](#)

Membership:

- Fourteen voting members (legislators)
 - Five from Senate → four from majority party; one from minority party
 - Nine from House → seven from majority party; two from minority party
- Any number of nonvoting members

Appointing Authority:

- Senate members appointed by President of Senate
- House members appointed by Speaker of House
- Nonvoting members recommended by chairs and appointed by LMC for two-year term

Meetings: Nine meetings authorized within interim period (additional meetings allowed with LMC approval)

Sunset/Repeal Date: July 1, 2028



Duties

Mandatory/Required:

- Develop federalism curriculum¹
- Report on relevant federalism issues to interim committees
- Review and make recommendations on public lands issues
- Report results of any evaluation of federal law to Legislature
- Coordinate efforts among state entities for transfer of public lands to state
- Maintain information on Legislature’s website regarding Commission’s activities
- Coordinate with and make recommendations to UVU’s Center for Constitutional Studies and Herbert Institute regarding federalism duties and report annually to LMC on UVU’s progress
 - *Federalism training for state employees*
 - *Annual federalism conference*
 - *State-led national federalism organization (NFI/NFC)*
 - *Outreach/coordination*
- Report annually to LMC on federal guidance letters obtained from state agencies²
- Review and make recommendations to EAC on LFA budget stress test results related to federal funds

¹ Accessible under “related links” on Commission’s [2022 webpage](#)

² Highlighted text indicates changes from 2026 General Session



Duties

Discretionary/Optional:

- Evaluate federal law in accordance with standards/requirements in Utah Code Section [63C-4a-304](#)
- Engage with govt. officials upon determining federal law violates federalism principles
- Recommend calling of special session to Governor following evaluation of federal law
- Coordinate with other states on evaluation/response to federal law
- Recommend and prepare legislation for changes to Statewide Resource Management Plan
- Contract with higher education institutions to monitor federal law
- Meet with DEQ as needed to discuss DEQ's functions
- Open up to two committee bills per calendar year (includes Statewide Resource Management Plan bill)
- Assist interim committees with committee bills related to federalism
- Authorize use or transfer ownership of NFI/NFC trademarks