

Cityhood in Georgia

Incorporating a municipality in Georgia requires the approval of the Legislature.

538 CURRENT CITIES IN GEORGIA

1733 Savannah, Georgia's oldest city, founded
2017 South Fulton, Georgia's newest city, founded

GEORGIA IS **1 OF 7** STATES THAT REQUIRE LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL FOR MUNICIPAL INCORPORATION

The current cityhood process looks like this:



Generally, in order to obtain an approved feasibility study, the sponsoring group must meet the following qualifications*:

- The group must have nonprofit status
- The group must sign a contractual agreement with the entity conducting the study
- The group must provide a letter from the legislative member who is sponsoring the bill
- The group must obtain a map of the proposed city from the General Assembly's Reapportionment Office

*Each entity that provides feasibility studies is different; specific requirements may vary.

The following programs are currently authorized to conduct feasibility studies for cities and impact studies for counties:

- CARL VINSON INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
- ANDREW YOUNG SCHOOL OF POLICY STUDIES GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
- ENTERPRISE INNOVATION INSTITUTE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

A PROPOSED CITY MUST PROVIDE AT LEAST 3 OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:



A FEASIBILITY STUDY CAN TAKE **6 MONTHS OR MORE** TO COMPLETE AND COSTS APPROXIMATELY **\$30,000**

REQUIREMENTS:
 MINIMUM POPULATION OF PROPOSED CITY: **200**
 AVERAGE RESIDENT POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE: **200**

60% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LOTS IN THE PROPOSED CITY MUST BE USED FOR RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, INSTITUTIONAL, RECREATIONAL, OR GOVERNMENTAL PURPOSES