

## Local Government Basics: Key Takeaways

1. The powers and responsibilities of state, county, and city governments differ in many ways, but also overlap in some areas.
2. The different forms of local government shape the formal and informal processes through which policy decisions are made and implemented.
3. Local elected officials have a multi-faceted role as legislators and leaders within the community.
4. Community-based organizations play an important role in representing residents, informing and shaping policy decisions.
5. Municipal staff are essential to both implementing policies and responding to the questions and issues that arise in the community.

