



# Local Government Authorities

## TYPES OF AUTHORITIES

- Development Authority
- Downtown Development Authority
- Hospital Authority
- Housing Authority
- Joint Development Authority
- Recreation Authority
- Regional Jail Authority
- Regional Solid Waste Management Authority
- Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly Authority
- Resource Recovery Development Authority
- Urban Residential Finance Authority (municipalities over 350,000)

## Program Overview

Local government authorities are separate entities created for a specific public purpose. Local governments create authorities as a means of providing a wide range of services to their citizens and have used them in increasing numbers to deliver services, and they have been growing steadily in Georgia since the 1950s. This growth reflects the increased public demand for specialized services and local government's reliance on alternative methods of service delivery. Authorities are often better suited to deliver these services since they focus on one specific function, allowing a greater degree of concentrated effort in providing services. As new programs are initiated, or new services required, the establishment of authorities may reduce the financial burden on cities and counties.