



Ray Martinez III
President
Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, Inc.

Ray Martinez is president of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, Inc. (ICUT), a 501(c)(6) membership association which serves the state and federal policy interests of Texas' regionally-accredited, nonprofit independent institutions of higher education. Prior to joining ICUT, Ray served as chancellor of WGU Texas and has held senior government relations positions at Rice University and Texas A&M International University. Ray previously served as chief of staff and general counsel to State Senator Judith Zaffirini and concurrently, as the director of the Texas Senate Committee on Higher Education.

Ray also has substantial federal policy experience, having served in the administration of President William Jefferson Clinton, where he held numerous appointed positions, including regional director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and deputy assistant to President Clinton on the White House staff. Ray returned to Washington, D.C. in 2003 to serve as one of four initial commissioners on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, a bipartisan federal agency responsible for assisting state and local governments to improve the process of election administration. President George W. Bush nominated Ray to serve as a commissioner and he was subsequently confirmed by the U.S. Senate for this position.

Ray has put his extensive state and federal policy experience to work in the college classroom. From 2007 – 2013, he served as an adjunct professor of public policy at the University of Texas School of Law and the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, where he taught a course on election administration, redistricting and campaign finance. His writings and commentaries on a variety of election law issues have been printed in various periodicals, including the *New York Times*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Roll Call*, and the *Election Law Journal*. Ray recently completed a three-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), which guides the organization's work and implements the accreditation process for public and private institutions of higher education in an 11-state region, including Texas.

A native of Alice, Texas, Ray received his bachelor's degree from Southwestern University and his law degree from the University of Houston Law Center. Though currently on a leave of absence due to his service on the SACSCOC Board of Trustees, Ray is enrolled at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, where he is a candidate in the Doctor of Education program focusing on higher education leadership.

Ray and his wife, Beth, reside in Austin and they have two teenage children, Sofia Grace and Lorenzo Elder.