

Jennifer Nelson

Public Service Assistant, Carl Vinson Institute of Government

University of Georgia

Bio:

Jennifer Nelson, Public Service Assistant with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government, provides economic development training to local governments and state agencies as well as a variety of professional associations. She manages and develops training programs for authority board members in governance and leadership development, economic development, leading high-performing boards, visioning, planning, community engagement, financial management and governance, and moral and ethical leadership. In addition, Jennifer assists local communities in strategic planning related to economic development. Jennifer manages the University of Georgia's Georgia Certified Economic Developer Program which was a finalist for a national economic development award for the University Economic Development Association's 2018 Awards of Excellence.

Prior to joining the Institute of Government, Jennifer was the director for existing industry and regional recruitment with the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD). She oversaw regional project managers in Georgia's 12 state service delivery regions and assisted with existing industry expansion and regional recruitment projects. Jennifer joined GDEcD in 1998 as a regional project manager in Middle Georgia after having served as the director of economic development for Metter and Candler County, Georgia.

She is an active member of the Georgia Economic Developers Association and a graduate of Leadership Macon as well as being selected as one of the 2010 "Georgia's 40 Under 40" honorees by *Georgia Trend* magazine.

Education:

J.D., Mercer University; B.A., Clemson University

Additional Info:

Areas of Expertise: economic development, strategic planning, management and leadership development