Government and Commerce
The state of Georgia has had continuous representation in China since 2007. Paul Swenson has led Georgia’s international trade efforts in China since 2013, and John Ling has handled international investment since 2015.

The Chinese Consulate General in Houston, Texas serves eight U.S. states, including Georgia. Li Qiangmin has served as Consul General since May 2014.


Georgia-based organizations such as the Georgia China Alliance, National Association of Chinese-Americans (NACA), Chinese Business Association of Atlanta (CBAA), Association of Chinese Professionals (ACP) and U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Association (USCPFA) help foster business connections between Georgians and Chinese professionals.

Georgia has four sister city agreements with China: Brunswick - Ganzhou, Hinesville - Yichun, Savannah - Jiujiang and Tifton - Linyi. Sandy Springs has a friendship-city relationship with Taicang.

Georgia and Shandong province are both members of the Regional Leaders Summit (RLS), a strategic alliance of seven international regions fostering the exchange of best practices on topics of mutual interest. Georgia hosted the Regional Leaders Summit in 2014.

In commemoration of the 35th anniversary of U.S.-China diplomatic normalization in 2014, the Carter Center’s China Program hosted a Chinese contemporary art exhibit attended by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

Academics
The University System of Georgia (USG) offers 39 study abroad programs to China in a variety of academic disciplines. During the 2015-16 school year more than 450 USG students studied in China. As of Fall 2017, 3,838 Chinese students were enrolled in USG schools. USG institutions currently host 1,320 visiting scholars from Chinese universities. Georgia’s private colleges and universities host an additional 3,000 Chinese students every year.

The UGA College of Public Health partners with the Jiangsu Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Shanghai Pudong New Area Centre for Disease Control and Prevention to provide fieldwork opportunities and to conduct joint public health research. UGA is also a U.S. partner in a new Chinese-government funded International Joint Research Laboratory for Lipid Nutrition at Jiangnan University.

Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) has a permanent campus in Hong Kong, and Georgia Tech has its own campus in Shenzhen. Emory University provides faculty-led study abroad to Nanjing and Beijing as well as an exchange program with Hong Kong Baptist University. Additionally, six Confucius Institutes are housed at Georgia universities.
There are at least 101 Chinese facilities operating in Georgia employing at least 5,000 Georgians. A list can be found online at Georgia.org/SiteSelector.

Leading Chinese companies in Georgia include CAP Barbell, Inc., American Fiber Packaging and Tech-Long USA. Qingdao Sentury Tire announced an investment of $530 million in 2016, creating more than 1,000 jobs.

Transportation
Delta Air Lines offers one-connection flights from Atlanta to Beijing and non-stop flights to Shanghai starting July 2018.

The Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) in Savannah has an established relationship with 8 port cities in China. The GPA offers eleven regular shipping services from the port of Savannah to calling on the ports of Da Chan Bay, Ningbo, Qingdao, Shanghai, Shekou, Xiamen, Xingang/Tianjin and Yantian. The Port of Brunswick also offers shipping services to Guangzhou/Xinsha, Shanghai and Tianjin/Xingang. GPA’s China representative for the Port of Savannah is Captain Charles You.

About GDEcD
The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) is the state’s sales and marketing arm, the lead agency for attracting new business investment, encouraging the expansion of existing industry and small businesses, aligning workforce education and training with in-demand jobs, locating new markets for Georgia products, attracting tourists to Georgia, and promoting the state as a destination for arts and location for film, music and digital entertainment projects, as well as planning and mobilizing state resources for economic development.

GDEcD’s International Representatives in China

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*Information valid as of May 2018