

Executive Department - State Ethics Commission

MISSION

To carry out legislative mandates and policy in support of the public interest in having Maryland's government and its lobbyists conform to established standards of ethical conduct and disclosure.

VISION

A State in which government decisions, operations and services are carried out consistent with high ethical standards.

KEY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Goal 1. Support public trust in its officials and employees.

Obj. 1.1 Ensure that statutory disclosure filing requirements for officials and lobbyists are met.

Obj. 1.2 Develop and distribute information through the Internet or other means to explain Ethics Law requirements to officials, employees, regulated lobbyists and others impacted by the Public Ethics Law.

Performance Measures	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Est.	2023 Est.
Individuals required to file financial disclosure forms	15,500	16,154	16,627	16,564	17,807	18,057	18,300
Percentage of financial disclosure forms received by due date	87%	86%	84%	92%	89%	90%	90%
Financial disclosure forms reviewed	14,726	14,035	7,091	29,691	19,390	19,177	19,420
Lobbyist registrations received and reviewed	3,406	3,556	3,799	3,549	3,509	3,579	3,650
Lobbyist activity reports received and reviewed	6,512	6,527	6,709	6,614	6,741	6,650	6,721
State officials receiving training	1,316	2,041	1,362	2,168	1,344	2,050	1,400
Lobbyists receiving training	320	322	328	404	336	325	330

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Goal 2. To prevent the conduct of State business from being subject to improper influence and avoid, to the extent reasonably possible, the appearance of improper influence through fair but rigorous application of the Public Ethics Law.

Obj. 2.1 Provide accurate and timely advice within 60 days to those subject to the requirements of the Ethics Law.

Obj. 2.2 Maintain a system to issue and process complaints and other investigative or enforcement activities consistent with the requirements of the Public Ethics Law. Complete all complaint matters within twelve months of initiation.

Obj. 2.3 Maintain standards for local government ethics laws and rules and ensure requirements are met through technical assistance and review procedures. Review all changes in local programs and respond within 60 days.

Performance Measures	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Est.	2023 Est.
Commission informal ethics advice issued	488	564	616	662	769	755	800
Percentage of advice provided within 60 days	97%	90%	93%	97%	93%	90%	90%
Formal legal complaints issued	36	43	13	51	5	15	15
Number of current year complaint actions completed	27	18	6	35	4	12	12
Number of prior year complaint actions completed	68	4	19	3	7	10	10
Amount of late fees, fines or settlements paid	\$8,649	\$6,650	\$3,600	\$5,500	\$2,400	\$3,700	\$3,700
Percentage of completed complaint actions closed within twelve months of initiation	75%	42%	46%	69%	81%	75%	75%
Number of local governments requesting assistance	25	41	56	19	35	30	30
Local government ordinances approved	10	22	38	7	14	23	20
Percentage of responses provided within 60 days	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%