

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	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Est.	2020 Est.
Individuals required to file financial disclosure forms	13,368	14,647	14,972	15,500	16,154	16,477	16,806
Percentage of financial disclosure forms received by due date	86%	86%	88%	87%	86%	87%	88%
Financial disclosure forms reviewed	14,122	14,202	14,481	14,726	14,035	14,105	14,176
Lobbyist registrations received and reviewed	3,336	3,956	3,872	3,406	3,556	3,627	3,700
Lobbyist activity reports received and reviewed	6,125	6,136	6,428	6,512	6,527	6,363	6,491
State officials receiving training	1,279	1,506	1,243	1,316	2,041	1,300	1,350
Lobbyists receiving training	343	291	345	320	322	335	353

Executive Department - State Ethics Commission

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	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Est.	2020 Est.
Commission informal ethics advice issued	466	500	480	488	564	485	485
Percentage of advice provided within 60 days	94%	98%	98%	97%	90%	95%	95%
Formal legal complaints issued	30	62	126	36	43	45	45
Number of current year complaint actions completed	25	50	51	27	18	35	35
Number of prior year complaint actions completed	31	2	17	68	4	25	10
Amount of late fees, fines or settlements paid	\$4,580	\$7,990	\$4,800	\$8,649	\$6,650	\$4,800	\$4,800
Percentage of completed complaint actions closed within twelve months of initiation	83%	80%	42%	75%	42%	77%	77%
Number of local governments requesting assistance	35	31	21	25	41	25	25
Local government ordinances approved	18	12	12	10	22	20	20
Percentage of responses provided within 60 days	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%