

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	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Est.	2025 Est.
Individuals required to file financial disclosure forms	16,627	16,564	17,807	18,344	17,779	18,139	18,502
Percentage of financial disclosure forms received by due date	84%	92%	89%	89%	83%	86%	88%
Financial disclosure forms reviewed	7,091	29,691	19,390	19,582	18,834	19,046	19,427
Lobbyist registrations received and reviewed	3,799	3,549	3,509	3,815	4,081	4,131	4,281
Lobbyist activity reports received and reviewed	6,709	6,614	6,741	7,009	7,521	7,692	7,787
State officials receiving training	1,362	2,168	1,344	2,199	1,392	1,855	2,076
Lobbyists receiving training	328	404	336	362	374	385	402

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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	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Est.	2025 Est.
Commission informal ethics advice issued	616	662	769	803	851	900	955
Percentage of advice provided within 60 days	93%	97%	93%	92%	92%	92%	92%
Formal legal complaints issued	13	51	5	9	8	9	9
Number of current year complaint actions completed	6	35	4	4	3	6	6
Number of prior year complaint actions completed	19	3	7	-	4	4	4
Amount of late fees, fines or settlements paid	\$3,600	\$5,500	\$2,400	\$1,750	\$3,250	\$3,500	\$3,500
Percentage of completed complaint actions closed within twelve months of initiation	46%	69%	81%	100%	100%	90%	90%
Number of local governments requesting assistance	56	19	35	39	65	40	40
Local government ordinances approved	38	7	14	15	47	30	30
Percentage of responses provided within 60 days	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%