

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	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Est.	2019 Est.
Individuals required to file financial disclosure forms	13,889	13,368	14,647	14,972	15,500	15,310	15,616
Percentage of financial disclosure forms received by due date	83%	86%	86%	88%	87%	88%	88%
Financial disclosure forms reviewed	14,155	14,122	14,202	14,481	14,726	14,799	14,873
Lobbyist registrations received and reviewed	3,160	3,336	3,956	3,872	3,406	3,474	3,544
Lobbyist activity reports received and reviewed	5,709	6,125	6,136	6,428	6,512	6,642	6,774
State officials receiving training	1,022	1,279	1,506	1,243	1,316	1,295	1,330
Lobbyists receiving training	250	343	291	345	320	332	345

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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	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Est.	2019 Est.
Commission informal ethics advice issued	404	466	500	480	488	480	480
Percentage of advice provided within 60 days	94%	94%	98%	98%	97%	97%	97%
Formal legal complaints issued	55	30	62	126	36	45	50
Number of current year complaint actions completed	12	25	50	51	27	39	40
Number of prior year complaint actions completed	11	31	2	17	68	7	5
Amount of late fees, fines or settlements paid	\$15,610	\$4,580	\$7,990	\$4,800	\$8,649	\$4,500	\$4,500
Percentage of completed complaint actions closed within twelve months of initiation	42%	83%	80%	42%	75%	86%	80%
Number of local governments requesting assistance	86	35	31	21	25	23	23
Local government ordinances approved	32	18	12	12	10	10	10
Percentage of responses provided within 60 days	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%