



October 5, 2023

To: 2023 Special Committee on Governmental Ethics Reform, Campaign Finance Law

From: Elaina Rudder, Senior Research Analyst

Re: State Ethics Commissions

OVERVIEW OF ETHICS COMMISSIONS IN ALL 50 STATES

This memorandum provides an overview of entities with investigation and enforcement authority regarding ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosures; campaign finance; and lobbying in all 50 states, including the authority of ethics commissions, the structure of ethics commissions (*i.e.*, the name of the agency, the number of members, how members are appointed, and term lengths), and qualifications and restrictions on membership.

Distribution of Authority

In Kansas, one agency, the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission (KGEC), has authority over laws relating to ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosures (ethics); the Campaign Finance Act; and the regulation of lobbying. [*Note:* The Secretary of State is the public repository for filed KGEC forms.] However, the distribution of authority differs in other states.

In a majority of states, multiple ethics commissions, legislative committees or panels, and state officers have authority over the areas of ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosures; campaign finance; and lobbying. While a majority of states have only one entity comparable in oversight authority to the KGEC, very few task a single agency or authority with responsibility for all three areas. **Appendix A, Distribution of Authority**, lists the entities with these types of responsibilities in the three categories and citations for statutes regarding that authority.

States with Multiple Agencies Specific to Ethics Investigation and Enforcement

In many states, multiple agencies, officials, or committees have authority over the areas of ethics, conflicts of interests, and financial disclosures. Additionally, states may charge a different agency or official with enforcing the laws, such as the Attorney General, Secretary of State, or district attorneys.

States with Legislative Ethics Committees

In nine states, legislative ethics committees have oversight either in addition to oversight by an agency or official or in place of an agency or official specifically regarding ethics, conflicts of interest, or financial disclosure:

- States with both legislative ethics committees and ethics agencies or officials: Indiana, Maryland, Ohio, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia.
- States with only a legislative ethics committee: Alaska, Arizona, and New Hampshire.

States with No Agency or Legislative Ethics Committee

Idaho and Wyoming have no agency, official, or legislative ethics committee with authority over ethics, conflicts of interest, or financial disclosure laws. Montana grants this authority to one official, the Commissioner of Political Practices.

Structure of Ethics Commissions

This portion of the memorandum focuses on only those states with agencies or officials with authority over laws relating to ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosures.

Structure of KGEC

KGEC consists of nine members who serve two-year terms. Members are appointed as follows:

- Two members are appointed by the Governor who are not members of the same political party;
- One member is appointed by the President of the Senate;
- One member is appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- One member is appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;
- One member is appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;
- One member is appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;
- One member is appointed by the Attorney General; and
- One member is appointed by the Secretary of State.

In the event of a vacancy, the same appointing officer who made the original appointment must appoint a new member to serve the remainder of the term.¹

Structure of Ethics Commissions in Other States

The structure of ethics commissions in other states varies in terms of the number of members, appointing authority, and term length, as summarized in table form in **Appendix B, Structure of Elections Commissions**. Additional information on formation and structure of these entities is provided below.

Procedures for Appointing Members

The procedure an appointing authority (e.g., the governor) must use when appointing members of an ethics commission generally include:

- The appointing authority selects a qualified individual of their choosing;
- The appointing authority selects a qualified individual from a list prepared by a government official, committee, group, or individual, or an individual recommended by a government official, committee, group, or individual; or
- The appointing authority selects both a qualified individual of their choosing and a qualified individual from a list prepared by another government official, committee, group, or individual.

In 30 states, including Kansas, the appointing authority selects a qualified individual of their choosing.

In nine states, the appointing authority selects a qualified individual from a list prepared by a government official, committee, group, or individual, or an individual recommended by a government official, committee, group, or individual. For example, in Missouri, the Governor selects six members from lists of names submitted by each congressional district committee of the political parties having the two highest number of votes cast for their candidate for governor at the last gubernatorial election.²

In six states, the appointment process is a combination of selecting any qualified individual and selecting from a list or recommended individuals. For example, in Rhode Island, the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Minority Leader of the House each submit a list of five individuals to the Governor, and the Governor selects one individual from each list to serve as members of the Rhode Island Ethics Commission. The Governor also selects four individuals without regard to the submitted lists.³

Additionally, in 20 of states, some or all appointments are subject to confirmation or advice and consent by the Senate, the House of Representatives, or both. For instance,

1 [KSA 25-4119a, 25-4119d](#)

2 Mo. Ann. Stat. § 105.955

3 36 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 36-14-8

Tennessee law requires gubernatorial appointees to be confirmed by a two-thirds vote by each house, and legislative appointees to be confirmed by a two-thirds vote by the appointing authority's house.⁴

Vacancy

If a vacancy occurs, a new member is typically appointed by either the original appointing authority or by the Governor in the same manner as the original appointment. For example, the Oklahoma Constitution provides that a vacancy on the Ethics Commission is filled by the original appointing authority for the remainder of the unexpired term⁵; whereas, Alabama law states the Governor appoints a new member of the State Ethics Commission to serve for the unexpired term when there is a vacancy.⁶

Term Limits

At least half of states place a limit on the total number of terms or successive terms a member may serve. For instance, members of the South Carolina State Ethics Commission who complete a full five-year term are not eligible for reappointment⁷, and members of the Arkansas Ethics Commission may not be appointed to serve consecutive terms.⁸

Diversity

No more than five members of KGEC may be members of the same political party⁹, and most states specify political diversity among appointees or create appointing authorities dependent on political affiliation. In addition, 13 states require diversity among appointees on factors such as geography, prior experience, and state demographics.

Qualifications and Restrictions for Membership on Ethics Commissions

This portion of the memorandum focuses on only those states that have agencies with authority over laws relating to ethics, conflicts of interest, and financial disclosures.

Qualifications and Restrictions for Members of KGEC

Qualifications. To qualify for membership, a person must not have:

- Held the office of chairperson, vice chairperson, or treasurer of any county, district, or state political party committee;

4 Tenn. Code Ann. § 3-6-103

5 Okla. Const. art. XXIX, § 2

6 Ala.Code 1975 § 36-25-3

7 S.C. Code Ann. § 8-13-310

8 Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-217

9 [KSA 25-4119a](#)

- Within five years preceding the date of appointment, been a candidate or the holder of any partisan political office; or
- Within three years preceding the date of appointment:
 - Held an elective state office;
 - Held the office of secretary of any department of state government;
 - Been a lobbyist as defined by [KSA 46-222](#);
 - Been an officer or employee who directly participated in the making of a contract on behalf of a vendor of goods and services with the State of Kansas or state agency; or
 - Provided services under contract to the State of Kansas or state agency.¹⁰

Restrictions on activities.

While serving as a member of the Commission, a member must not:

- Be an individual subject to the Campaign Finance Act;
- Serve as a chairperson or treasurer for any candidate or committee subject to the provisions of the Campaign Finance Act;
- Actively solicit contributions subject to the provisions of the Campaign Finance Act;
- Be a lobbyist as defined by [KSA 46-222](#);
- Be an officer or employee who directly participates in the making of a contract on behalf of a vendor of goods and services with the State of Kansas or state agency;
- Provide services under contract to the State of Kansas or state agency;
- Be a candidate for or the holder of any partisan political office;
- Be the chairperson, vice chairperson, or treasurer of any county, district, or state political party committee;
- Directly or indirectly solicit contributions for any partisan political party or any candidate for partisan political office; or
- Endorse any candidate for partisan political office.¹¹

¹⁰ [KSA 25-4119d](#)

¹¹ *Id.*

Qualifications and Restrictions for Members of Ethics Commissions in Other States

Qualifications

Qualifications for members vary by state and generally fall into the below categories.

US citizen. Hawaii and Kentucky require members of their ethics commissions to be United States citizens.

.Resident, citizen, or elector of state. In statutes, 14 states require members of their ethics commissions to be residents, citizens, or electors of the state: Alabama, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Utah.

Restrictions on certain partisan involvement. In 16 states, including Kansas, at least one member of the ethics commission must be an individual who has not been a candidate for office, appointed or elected public official, lobbyist, or officer or paid employee of a political party: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, and West Virginia.

Some states, including Georgia, limit the time frame (within a five-year period) for when an individual who has been a candidate, public official, lobbyist, or officer or paid employee of a political party is ineligible to serve as a member of the commission.¹²

Current legislator. Three states require at least one member of the ethics commission to be a current legislator: New York, Virginia, and Washington.

Former legislator. Three states require at least one member of the ethics commission to be a former legislator: Minnesota, Utah, and West Virginia.

Former judge. Four states require at least one member of the ethics commission to be a former judge within the state: South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Other former elected official. Five states require at least one member of the ethics commission to be a former elected official or public officer: Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Nevada, and West Virginia.

Executive branch or other government employee. Three states require at least one member of the ethics commission to be a former executive branch employee or other government employee: Colorado, New Jersey, and Virginia.

Experience holding governmental office or employment. Illinois requires members of the Legislative Ethics Commission to have experience holding governmental office or employment, and members may be from the general public or members of the General Assembly.¹³

Licensed attorney. Three states require at least one member of the ethics commission to be a licensed attorney in the state: Alabama, Louisiana, and Nevada.

12 Ga. Code Ann. § 21-5-4

13 5 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 430/25-5

Nomination by certain organizations. Vermont and Virginia require at least one member of the ethics commission to be chosen from nominees from specified organizations.

Public or citizen-at-large members. Four states require at least one member of the ethics commission to be a public or citizen-at-large member: Nebraska, New Jersey, Washington, and West Virginia.

Minority party or independent representation. Arkansas, Kentucky, and Nebraska require at least one member to be registered with a minority party or be registered as an independent, and Wisconsin authorizes minority party representation if the party meets certain qualifications.

To qualify for appointment to the New Mexico State Ethics Commission, a person must not have changed their party registration in the five years preceding such appointment.¹⁴

Demographic representation. Numerous states require certain demographic information to be considered when appointing members to ethics commissions. The demographic requirements include:

- Alabama, Arkansas, and Tennessee require at least one member of the ethics commission to be a member of a minority race;
- Arkansas and Tennessee require at least one member of the ethics commission to be a woman;
- Louisiana, New Mexico, South Carolina, and Tennessee require appointing authorities to consider their state's demographics (e.g., race, gender, culture, geographic location within the state) to ensure all segments of each state's population are represented by members of the ethics commissions;
- Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Virginia limit the number of members who may be appointed from the same congressional districts;
- Nevada limits the number of members who may be residents of the same county¹⁵; and
- West Virginia requires one member to be from a rural area.¹⁶

Restrictions

Restrictions on membership vary by state and generally fall into the below categories.

Political party limits. A total of 28 states, including Kansas, limit the number of members who may be affiliated with the same political party. Generally, the number of the

14 N.M. Stat. Ann. § 10-16G-4

15 Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 281A.200

16 W. Va. Code Ann. § 6B-2-1

members affiliated with the same political party is limited to half or a simple majority of the members. For example, the Nevada Commission on Ethics has eight members, and no more than four members may be members of the same political party.¹⁷ The Florida Commission on Ethics has nine members, and no more than five members may be members of the same political party at any one time.¹⁸

A few states have more limitations on the number of members who may be affiliated with the same political party. Colorado prohibits more than two of its five members from being affiliated with the same political party.¹⁹ New Mexico limits the number of members affiliated with one political party to three of its seven members.²⁰ Oregon limits the number of members affiliated with one political party to three of the nine members.²¹

Political activity. Kansas is among 31 states that restrict members from participating in certain political activities, which may include:

- Holding public office;
- Serving as an officer of any political party or partisan organization;
- Participating in, fundraising for, or contributing to an election campaign;
- Being a registered lobbyist;
- Campaigning for public office; and
- Serving as an agency head.

Tennessee also prohibits a member's immediate family member from participating in certain political activities.²²

Contracting with state, agency, entity, or political subdivision. Similar to Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Vermont prohibit members while serving on a commission from holding or entering into an contract with the state or any agency, entity, or political subdivision of the state.

Public employment. Statutes of 11 states prohibit members from public or government employment while serving on the commission. These states include: Connecticut, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Vermont.

17 Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 281A.200

18 Fla. Stat. Ann. § 112.321

19 Colo. Const. art. XXIX, § 5; C.R.S.A. § 24-18.5-101

20 N.M. Stat. Ann. § 10-16G-3

21 Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 244.250

22 Tenn. Code Ann. § 3-6-103

Tennessee also prohibits a member's immediate family member from being an employee of the state or political subdivision of the state.²³

Other restrictions. In addition to restrictions on the number of members from the same political party and on the political activity of members, a handful of states have other restrictions, including the following:

- Louisiana prohibits members of the Board of Ethics from serving at the same time on any other board or commission where membership is appointed in whole or in part by the governor²⁴;
- Illinois, Kentucky, South Carolina, and Tennessee restrict individuals related to (*i.e.*, family member or spouse) appointing authorities, candidates for public office, public officials, and members of a political party's executive committee from being members of a commission;
- Connecticut and New Mexico prohibit a member from representing, accepting employment, or otherwise providing services to a respondent for one year following the end of the member's service on the commission;
- Rhode Island prohibits a member from having an equity interest or ownership interest in a business that derives any of its revenue from lobbying and prohibits being employed by such a business²⁵; and
- Tennessee prohibits a member from being employed by an elected official, either in an official capacity or as an individual, or being employed by any business where an elected official has any direct input concerning employment decisions.²⁶

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ La. Stat. Ann. § 42:1132

²⁵ 36 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 36-14-8

²⁶ Tenn. Code Ann. § 3-6-103

Appendix A. Distribution of Authority

State	Ethics and Financial Disclosures of State Officers and Employees	Campaign Finance	Lobbying
KS	Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission KSA 46-214a, 46-255	Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission KSA 25-4158	Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission KSA 46-214a
	Attorney General KSA 46-259	Attorney General and county or district attorneys KSA 25-4164	Attorney General KSA 46-259
AL	Alabama Ethics Commission Ala.Code § 36-25-4	Alabama Ethics Commission Ala.Code § 36-25-4	Alabama Ethics Commission Ala.Code § 36-25-4
		Secretary of State and Attorney General Ala.Code §§ 36-14-18, 36-25-27	
AK	Select Committee on Legislative Ethics Alaska Stat. Ann. § 24.60.130	Select Committee on Legislative Ethics Alaska Stat. Ann. § 24.60.130	Alaska Public Offices Commission Alaska Stat. Ann. § 24.45.021
AZ	Legislative Ethics Committees Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 38-519	The Filing Officer (Secretary of State, county election officer, city clerk) Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 16-928	Secretary of State and Attorney General Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 41-1237, 41-1239
AR	Arkansas Ethics Commission Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-217	Arkansas Ethics Commission Ark. Const. art. 19, § 28 Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-217	Arkansas Ethics Commission Ark. Code Ann. § 7-6-217
	Prosecuting attorney Ark. Code Ann. § 21-8-303		
CA	Fair Political Practices Commission Cal. Gov't. Code § 83111	Fair Political Practices Commission Cal. Gov't. Code § 83111	Fair Political Practices Commission Cal. Gov't. Code § 83111
CO	Colorado Independent Ethics Commission Colo. Const. art. XXIX	Secretary of State and Attorney General Colo. Const. art. XXVIII	Secretary of State Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 24-6-305
CT	Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board/Office of State Ethics Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 1-81	State Elections Enforcement Commission Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 9-7b	Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board/Office of State Ethics Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 1-81
DE	Delaware State Public Integrity Commission* Del. Code Ann. tit. 29, §§ 5808A, 5809	State Election Commissioner Del. Code Ann. tit. 15, § 8041	Delaware State Public Integrity Commission Del.Code Ann. tit. 29, § 5832
FL	Florida Commission on Ethics Fla. Stat. Ann. § 112.320	Division of Elections Fla. Stat. Ann. § 106.22	Legislative Committees Fla. Stat. Ann. § 11.045
		Florida Elections Commission Fla. Stat. Ann. § 106.25	Florida Commission on Ethics Fla. Stat. Ann. § 112.3122
GA	State Ethics Commission Ga. Code Ann. § 21-5-6	State Ethics Commission Ga. Code Ann. § 21-5-6	Governor, Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer Fla. Stat. Ann. § 112.3122
HI	State Ethics Commission Haw. Const. art. XIV Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 84-21	Campaign Spending Commission Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 11-314	State Ethics Commission Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 97-6

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State	Ethics and Financial Disclosures of State Officers and Employees	Campaign Finance	Lobbying
ID	No ethics commission	Secretary of State and county clerk Idaho Code Ann. § 67-6615	Secretary of State and county clerk Idaho Code Ann. § 67-6615
IL	Illinois Legislative Ethics Commission 5 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 430/25-15	State Board of Elections 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/9-18	Secretary of State Inspector General 25 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 170/11
	Legislative Inspector General 5 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 430/25-20	State Attorney or Attorney General 10 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/9-26	
	Ethics Officers of the House and Senate 5 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 430/25-23		
IN	Indiana State Ethics Commission* Ind. Code Ann. § 4-2-6-4	Indiana Election Commission Ind. Code Ann. § 3-6-4.1-14	Indiana Lobby Registration Commission Ind. Code Ann. § 2-7-1.6-2
	Legislative Committees Ind. Code Ann. § 2-2.2-3-5	Secretary of State – Election Division and county election boards Ind. Code Ann § 3-9-4-13	Attorney General Ind. Code Ann. § 2-7-4-7
IA	Iowa Ethics & Campaign Disclosure Board Iowa Code Ann. § 68B.32A	Iowa Ethics & Campaign Disclosure Board Iowa Code Ann. §§ 68A.101, 68B.32	Iowa Ethics & Campaign Disclosure Board Iowa Code Ann. § 68B.32A
			House and Senate Ethics Committees Iowa Code Ann. § 68B.31
KY	Legislative Ethics Commission Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 6.666	Kentucky Registry of Election Finance Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 121.110	Legislative Ethics Commission Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 6.807
		Attorney General, Commonwealth's attorney, or county attorney Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 121.110	
LA	Board of Ethics La. Stat. Ann. § 42:1132	Board of Ethics, functioning as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure La. Stat. Ann. § 42:1132 La. Stat. Ann. § 18:1511.1	Board of Ethics La. Stat. Ann. § 24:51
	Ethics Adjudicatory Board La. Stat. Ann. § 42:1141.2		
ME	Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 1, § 1008 Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 5, § 19	Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 1, § 1008	Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 1, § 1008

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State	Ethics and Financial Disclosures of State Officers and Employees	Campaign Finance	Lobbying
MD	State Ethics Commission Md. Code Ann., Gen. Provis. § 5-205	State Board of Elections and county boards Md. Code Ann., Elec. Law §§ 2-102, 2-202	State Ethics Commission Md. Code Ann., Gen. Provis. § 5-205
	Joint Ethics Committee Md. Code Ann., Gen. Provis. § 5-104	State prosecutor or State's Attorney Md. Code Ann., Elec. Law, § 13-604	
MA	Massachusetts State Ethics Commission Mass. Gen. Laws Ann. ch. 268B, § 3	Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance Mass. Ann. Laws Ann. ch. 55 §§ 1 - 42	Secretary of State Mass. Gen. Laws Ann. ch. 3, § 47
MI	State Board of Ethics* Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 15.343	Secretary of State and Attorney General Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 169.215	Secretary of State and Attorney General Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. §§ 4.423, 4.424
	Department of State Mich. Const. art. IV, § 10		
MN	Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board Minn. Stat. Ann. § 10A.02	Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board Minn. Stat. Ann. § 10A.02	Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board Minn. Stat. An. § 10A.02
MS	Mississippi Ethics Commission Miss. Code Ann. § 25-4-19	Mississippi Ethics Commission Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-803 <i>et seq.</i>	Secretary of State Miss. Code Ann. § 5-8-17
	Attorney General Miss. Code Ann. § 25-4-18	Secretary of State and Attorney General Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-813	Attorney General and district attorneys Miss. Code Ann. § 5-8-15
MO	Missouri Ethics Commission Mo. Ann. Stat. § 105.955	Missouri Ethics Commission Mo. Ann. Stat. § 105.955	Missouri Ethics Commission Mo. Ann. Stat. § 105.955
MT	Montana Commissioner of Political Practices Mont. Code Ann. § 2-2-136 [Note: Montana does not have a multi-member commission.]	Montana Commissioner of Political Practices Mont. Code Ann. § 13-37-111	Montana Commissioner of Political Practices Mont. Code Ann. § 5-7-108 <i>et seq.</i>
		County attorney Mont. Code Ann. § 13-37-125	
NE	Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 49-14,123	Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 49-14,124	Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 49-14,124
			Clerk of the Legislature Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 49-1480
NV	Nevada Commission on Ethics Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 281A.240	Secretary of State and Attorney General Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 294A.410	Legislative Council Bureau Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 218H.200
			Secretary of State Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 218H.505
NH	Legislative Ethics Committee N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. 14-B:3	Secretary of State and Attorney General N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 664:18, 664:21	Secretary of State N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15:1 <i>et seq.</i>

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NJ	State Ethics Commission N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:13D-21	Election Law Enforcement Commission N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:44A-6	State Ethics Commission N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:13C-23
		Attorney General N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:44A-6	
NM	New Mexico State Ethics Commission N.M. Const. art 5, § 17	New Mexico State Ethics Commission N.M. Stat. Ann. § 1-19-34.8	New Mexico State Ethics Commission N.M. Stat. Ann. § 2-11-8.2
		Secretary of State N.M. Stat. Ann. § 1-19-34.8	Secretary of State and Attorney General N.M. Stat. Ann. §§ 2-11-3, 2-11-5
		Attorney General and District attorney N.M. Stat. Ann. § 1-19-36	
NY	Legislative Ethics Commission N.Y. Legis. Law § 80 (McKinney)	New York State Board of Elections N.Y. Elec. Law § 3-100 (McKinney)	New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government N.Y. Legis. Law § 1-d (McKinney)
	New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government N.Y. Exec. Law § 94 (McKinney)		
NC	North Carolina State Ethics Commission N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 138A-7	State Board of Elections N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 163-278.22	Secretary of State N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 120C-600
ND	North Dakota Ethics Commission N.D. Const. art. XIV, § 3 N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 54-66-01 <i>et seq.</i>	North Dakota Ethics Commission N.D. Const. art. XIV, § 3 N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 54-66-01 <i>et seq.</i>	North Dakota Ethics Commission N.D. Const. art. XIV, § 3 N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 54-66-01 <i>et seq.</i>
		Secretary of State and Attorney General N.D. Cent. Code § 16.1-08.1-06	Secretary of State and Attorney General N.D. Cent. Code § 54-05.1-04
OH	Ohio Ethics Commission* Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 102.01	Ohio Elections Commission Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3517.152	Joint Legislative Ethics Committee Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 101.78
	Joint Legislative Ethics Committee Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 101.78	Secretary of State Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3517.11	Attorney General Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 101.79
OK	Oklahoma Ethics Commission Okla. Const. art. XXIX, § 3	Oklahoma Ethics Commission Okla. Const. art. XXIX, § 4 Okla. Stat. tit. 74, § 4256	Oklahoma Ethics Commission Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 74, § 4250
OR	Oregon Governmental Ethics Commission Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 171.772	Secretary of State – Elections Division Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 260.200, 260.345	Oregon Governmental Ethics Commission Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 171.772

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PA	Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission 65 Pa. Stat. and Cons. Stat. Ann. § 1106	Department of State 25 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 3246	Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission 65 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 13A08
		Attorney General and district attorney 25 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 3260b	Department of State 65 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 13A04
			Attorney General 65 Pa. Stat. Ann. § 13A09
RI	Rhode Island Ethics Commission R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-8	Rhode Island Board of Elections R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-25-5	Secretary of State R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-139.1-4
SC	South Carolina State Ethics Commission S.C. Code Ann. § 8-13-320	South Carolina State Ethics Commission S.C. Code Ann. § 8-13-320	South Carolina State Ethics Commission S.C. Code Ann. § 2-17-20
	Attorney General S.C. Code Ann. § 8-13-320		
SD	State Government Accountability Board S.D. Codified Laws § 3-24-1	Secretary of State and Attorney General S.D. Codified Laws §§ 12-27-35, 12-27-47.1	Secretary of State S.D. Codified Laws §§ 2-12-1, 2-12-11
TN	Tennessee Ethics Commission Tenn. Code Ann. § 3-6-103	Tennessee Registry of Election Finance Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-10-108	Tennessee Ethics Commission Tenn. Code Ann. § 3-6-308
		Tennessee State Election Commission and county election commissions Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-10-103	
		Attorney General and district attorney Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-10-109	
TX	Texas Ethics Commission Tex. Const. art. 3, § 24a Tex. Gov't Code Ann. § 571.021	Texas Ethics Commission Tex. Elec. Code § 253.032 Tex. Gov't Code Ann. § 571.061	Texas Ethics Commission Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 305.005, 571.061
UT	Independent Legislative Ethics Commission Utah Const. art. VI, § 10 JR6-2-103 [joint rules]	Lieutenant Governor Utah Code Ann. § 20A-11-1001 <i>et seq.</i>	Lieutenant Governor Utah Code Ann. §§ 36-11-103, 36-11-401
	Senate and House Ethics Committees JR6-2-101 [joint rules]		
	Executive Branch Ethics Commission Utah Code Ann. § 63A-14-303		
	Political Subdivisions Ethics Commission Utah Code Ann. § 63A-15-501		
	Judicial Conduct Commission Utah Const. art. VIII, § 13 Utah Code Ann. § 78A-11-101 <i>et seq.</i>	Chief Election Officer Utah Code Ann. § 20A-11-1001 <i>et seq.</i>	

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UT	Lieutenant Governor and county clerks Utah Code Ann. § 20A-11-1601		
VT	Vermont State Ethics Commission Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 3, § 1221 <i>et seq.</i>	Secretary of State and Attorney General Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 17, §§ 2903, 2904, 2907	Secretary of State and Attorney General Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 2, §§ 263, 267a, 268
	Senate and House Ethics Panels Permanent Rules and Orders of the Senate (2023), Rule 102 Rules and Orders of the House of Representatives (2023), Rule 90(b)(2)		
VA	Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council Va. Code Ann. § 30-355 <i>et seq.</i>	State Board of Elections Va. Code Ann. §§ 24.2-102, 24-2-103, 24.2-946.3	Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council Va. Code Ann. § 2.2-426
	Senate and House Ethics Advisory Panels Va. Code Ann. § 30-112 <i>et seq.</i>		
	Senate and House Committees on Standards of Conduct Va. Code Ann. § 30-120	Attorney for the Commonwealth Va. Code Ann. § 24.2-946.3	Secretary of the Commonwealth Va. Code Ann. §§ 2.2-422, 2.2-431
	Attorney for the Commonwealth Va. Code Ann. § 2.2-3126 Va. Code Ann. § 30-122		
WA	Public Disclosure Commission** Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 42.17A.100	Public Disclosure Commission Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 42.17A.100 <i>et seq.</i>	Public Disclosure Commission Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 42.17A.100 <i>et seq.</i>
	Legislative Ethics Board Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 42.52.320		
	Executive Ethics Board Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 42.52.360		
	Commission on Judicial Conduct Wash. Const. art IV, § 31	Attorney General Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 42.17A.765	Attorney General Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 42.17A.765
	Attorney General Wash. Rev. Code Ann. §§ 42.52.450, 42.52.490, 42.52.530		
WV	West Virginia Ethics Commission W. Va. Code Ann. § 6B-2-2	State Election Commission W. Va. Code Ann. § 3-8-8	West Virginia Ethics Commission W. Va. Code Ann. §§ 6B-3-2, 6B-3-9, 6B-3-11
	Probable Cause Review Board W. Va. Code Ann. § 6B-2-2a	Secretary of State W. Va. Code Ann. § 3-8-7	

Appendix A. Distribution of Authority

State	Ethics and Financial Disclosures of State Officers and Employees	Campaign Finance	Lobbying
WI	Wisconsin Ethics Commission Wis. Stat. Ann. § 19.41	Wisconsin Ethics Commission Wis. Stat. Ann. § 11.1304 District attorney Wis. Stat. Ann. § 11.1401	Wisconsin Ethics Commission Wis. Stat. Ann. § 13.685
WY	No ethics commission	Secretary of State and Attorney General Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 22-25-101 <i>et seq.</i> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 22-26-121	Secretary of State Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 28-7-201

*Jurisdiction is limited to the executive branch.

**Authority limited financial disclosures of state officers and employees

Appendix B. Structure of Ethics Commissions

State	Name	Number of Members	Appointments	Term Length
KS	Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission	9	Governor - 2 (not from the same party) President of the Senate - 1 Speaker of the House - 1 House Minority Leader - 1 Senate Minority Leader - 1 Chief Justice of Supreme Court - 1 Attorney General - 1 Secretary of State - 1	2 years
AL	Alabama State Ethics Commission	5	Governor Lieutenant Governor or Presiding Officer of the Senate Speaker of the House of Representatives (Appointments subject to Senate confirmation)	5 years
AK*	No ethics commission			
AZ*	No ethics commission			
AR	Arkansas Ethics Commission	5	Governor - 1 Attorney General - 1 Lieutenant Governor - 1 Speaker of the House of Representatives - 1 President <i>Pro Tempore</i> of the Senate - 1	5 years
CA	California Fair Political Practices Commission	5	Governor - 2 (chairperson and one additional member) Attorney General - 1 Secretary of State - 1 Controller - 1	4 years
CO	Independent Ethics Commission	5	Senate President + 2/3 of Senators - 1 Speaker of the House of Representatives + 2/3 of Representatives - 1 Governor - 1 Chief Justice of Supreme Court - 1 3/4 of appointed members - 1	4 years
CT	Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board (within the Office of State Ethics)	9	Speaker of the House of Representatives - 1 President <i>Pro Tempore</i> of the Senate - 1 Senate Majority Leader - 1 Senate Minority Leader - 1 House Majority Leader - 1 House Minority Leader - 1 Governor - 3	4 years
DE**	State Public Integrity Commission	7	Governor - 7 (with concurrence of the Senate)	7 years

Appendix B. Structure of Ethics Commissions

State	Name	Number of Members	Appointments	Term Length
FL	Florida Commission on Ethics	9	Governor - 5 (no more than 3 from same political party) [Note: Subject to Senate confirmation] Speaker of the House of Representatives - 2 (not from same political party) President of the Senate - 2 (not from same political party)	2 years
GA	State Ethics Commission	5	Governor - 3 (no more than 2 from same political party) Senate Committee on Assignments - 1 Speaker of the House of Representatives - 1	4 years
HI	Hawaii State Ethics Commission	5	Governor - 5	4 years
ID***	No ethics commission			
IL	Illinois Legislative Ethics Commission	8	President of the Senate - 2 Senate Minority Leader - 2 Speaker of the House of Representatives - 2 House Minority Leader - 2	4 years
IN****	State Ethics Commission	5	Governor - 5 (no more than 3 from same political party)	4 years
IA	Iowa Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board	6	Governor - 6 (subject to confirmation by the Senate)	6 years
KY	Legislative Ethics Commission	9	President of the Senate - 4 Speaker of the House - 4 Legislative Research Commission - 1	4 years
LA	Board of Ethics	11	Governor - 7 House of Representatives - 2 Senate - 2	5 years
ME	Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices	5	Governor - 5	3 years
MD	State Ethics Commission	5	Governor - 3 (with advice and consent of Senate) President of the Senate - 1 Speaker of the House - 1	5 years
MA	Massachusetts State Ethics Commission	5	Governor - 3 (one as chairman) Secretary of State - 1 Attorney General - 1	5 years
MI****	State Board of Ethics	7	Governor - 7 (with advice and consent of the Senate)	4 years

Appendix B. Structure of Ethics Commissions

State	Name	Number of Members	Appointments	Term Length
MN	Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board	6	Governor - 6 (with advice and consent of 3/5 of both Senate and House of Representatives)	4 years
MS	Mississippi Ethics Commission	8	Governor - 2 Lieutenant Governor - 2 Speaker of the House of Representatives - 2 Chief Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court - 2	4 years
MO	Missouri Ethics Commission	6	Governor - 6 (with advice and consent of Senate)	4 years
MT	Montana Commissioner of Political Practices	1	Governor (subject to confirmation by a majority of the Senate)	6 years
NE	Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission	9	Secretary of State - 5 (one must be Secretary of State) Governor - 4	6 years
NV	Nevada Commission on Ethics	8	Legislative Commission - 4 Governor - 4	4 years
NH*	No ethics commission			
NJ	State Ethics Commission	7	Governor - 7	4 years ¹
NM	New Mexico State Ethics Commission	7	Speaker of the House of Representatives - 1 House Minority Floor Leader - 1 President <i>Pro Tempore</i> of the Senate - 1 Senate Minority Floor Leader - 1 4 Legislatively Appointed Members - 2 Governor - 1	4 years
NY	New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government	11	Governor - 3 President of Senate - 2 Senate Minority Leader - 1 Assembly Speaker - 2 Assembly Minority Leader - 1 Attorney General - 1 Comptroller - 1 (subject to review and approval of Independent Review Commission)	4 years
NY	Legislative Ethics Commission	9	President of the Senate - 2 (one legislator) Speaker of the Assembly - 2 (one legislator) Senate Minority Leader - 2 (one legislator) Assembly Minority Leader - 2 (one legislator) Speaker of the Assembly + Senate Majority Leader - 1	2 years for legislators, 4 years for others

Appendix B. Structure of Ethics Commissions

State	Name	Number of Members	Appointments	Term Length
NC	North Carolina State Ethics Commission	8	Governor - 4 (no more than 2 from same political party) Speaker of the House of Representatives - 2 (not from same political party) President Pro Tempore of the Senate - 2 (not from same political party)	4 years
ND	North Dakota Ethics Commission	5	Consensus agreement among Governor, Senate Majority Leader, and Senate Minority Leader - 5	4 years
OH****	Ohio Ethics Commission	6	Governor - 6 (with advice and consent of Senate)	6 years
OK	Oklahoma Ethics Commission	5	Governor - 1 Attorney General - 1 President <i>Pro Tempore</i> of the Senate - 1 Speaker of the House of Representatives - 1 Chief Justice of Supreme Court - 1	5 years
OR	Oregon Government Ethics Commission	9	Governor - 9 (subject to confirmation of Senate)	4 years
PA	State Ethics Commission	7	President <i>Pro Tempore</i> of the Senate - 1 Senate Minority Leader - 1 Speaker of the House of Representatives - 1 House Minority Leader - 1 Governor - 3 (no more than 2 from same political party)	3 years
RI	Rhode Island Ethics Commission	9	Governor - 9	5 years
SC	South Carolina State Ethics Commission	8	Governor - 4 (no more than 2 from political party of Governor) Senate - 2 House of Representatives - 2 (appointments subject to advice and consent of General Assembly)	5 years
SD	Government Accountability Board	4	Governor - 4 (no more than 2 from same political party) [<i>Note:</i> Subject to Senate confirmation]	5 years
TN	Tennessee Ethics Commission	6	Governor - 2 (one from each political party with 2/3 vote of each house) Speaker of the Senate - 2 Speaker of the House of Representatives - 2	4 years

Appendix B. Structure of Ethics Commissions

State	Name	Number of Members	Appointments	Term Length
TX	Texas Ethics Commission	8	Governor - 4 Lieutenant Governor - 2 Speaker of the House of Representatives - 2	4 years
UT	Independent Legislative Ethics Commission	5	President of the Senate + Speaker of the House - 3 Senate Minority Leader + House Minority Leader - 2	4 years
VT	Vermont State Ethics Commission	5	Chief Justice of Supreme Court - 1 League of Women Voters of Vermont - 1 Board of Directors of Vermont Society of Certified Public Accountants - 1 Board of Managers of Vermont State Bar Association - 1 Board of Directors of Society for Human Resource Management Vermont State Council - 1	5 years
VA	Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council	9	Speaker of the House of Delegates - 3 Senate Committee on Rules - 3 Governor - 3	4 years
WA	Public Disclosure Commission	5	Governor - 5 (with consent of Senate) [<i>Note:</i> No more than 3 from same political party]	5 years
WV	West Virginia Ethics Commission	9	Governor - 9 (with advice and consent of Senate)	5 years
WI	Wisconsin Ethics Commission	7	Senate Majority Leader - 1 Senate Minority Leader - 1 Speaker of the Assembly - 1 Assembly Minority Leader - 1 Governor - 3	5 years
WY***	No ethics commission			

*No ethics commission; only legislative committees on ethics

**Ethics laws only applies to executive branch; financial disclosure laws apply to all three branches of government

***No ethics commission or legislative committees on ethics

****Jurisdiction limited to the executive branch

¹Members from the executive branch serve at the pleasure of the Governor.