

GENERAL INFORMATION

State Ethics Commissions

DUTIES AND POWERS

JURISDICTION

FINANCE

State	Commission Name	Year Created	Branch	Number of Commissioners	Reports & Compliance					Duties and Powers					Jurisdiction					Finance
					Subpoena	Advisory Opinions	Enforceable	Legislators	Executive Branch	Candidates	Local Officials	Lobbyists	Vendors	Agency If Different						
KANSAS	Governmental Ethics Commission	1974	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Alabama	Alabama Ethics Commission	1974	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	SOS, AG
Alaska	Alaska Public Offices Commission	1974	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	SOS, AG
Alaska	Legislative Ethics Committee	1984	Legislative	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Arkansas	Arkansas Ethics Commission	1991	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
California	CA Fair Political Practices Comm'n	1975	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	SOS
Colorado	Colorado Indep. Ethics Comm'n	2006	Judicial	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Colorado	Office of State Ethics	2005	Independent	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Connecticut	Delaware Pub. Integrity Comm'n	1994	Executive	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Delaware	Florida Commission on Ethics	1974	Legislative	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Florida	GA Trans. & Camp'n Finance Comm'n	1974	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Georgia	State Ethics Commission	1968	Legislative	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Hawaii	Illinois Legislative Ethics Comm'n	2004	Legislative	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Illinois	Illinois Executive Ethics Comm'n	2003	Executive	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Indiana	IN Inspc. Gen. & IN St. Ethics Comm'n	1974, 2005	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Iowa	Indiana Lobby Registration Comm'n	1992	Legislative	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Iowa	IA Ethics & Campaign Disclosure Bd.	1973	Executive	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Kentucky	Legislative Ethics Commission	1993	Legislative	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Kentucky	Executive Branch Ethics Comm'n	1992	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Louisiana	Band of Ethics	1996	Executive	11	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Maine	Comm'n on Gov't Ethics & Elections	1976	Independent	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Maryland	State Ethics Commission	1979	Executive	3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Massachusetts	Massachusetts State Ethics Comm'n	1978	Other	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Michigan	Michigan State Board of Ethics	1973	Executive	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Minnesota	Camp Finance & Pub. Disclosure Bd.	1974	Executive	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Mississippi	Mississippi Ethics Commission	1979	Not provided	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	AG
Missouri	Missouri Ethics Commission	1991	Office of Admin.	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Montana	Commissioner of Political Practices	1975	Executive	1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nebraska	Accountability & Disclosure Comm'n	1976	Executive	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nebraska	Nevada Commission on Ethics	1975	Both	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	SOS
New Jersey	State Ethics Commission	1973	Executive	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
New York	N.J. Election Law Emf. Comm'n	No response	Executive	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
New York	N.Y. Joint Comm'n on Pub. Ethics	2010	Executive	14	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
North Carolina	N.Y. Legislative Ethics Comm'n	2007	Legislative	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
North Carolina	N.C. State Ethics Commission	2007	No Response	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Ohio	Ohio Ethics Commission	1974	Executive	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Ethics Commission	1990	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Oregon	Oregon Gov. Ethics Comm'n	1974	No response	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Pennsylvania	State Ethics Commission	1979	Independent	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Ethics Commission	1986	No Response	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
South Carolina	South Carolina Ethics Commission	1975	Executive	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Tennessee	TN Bureau of Ethics & Camp Finance	2006	Legislative	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Texas	Texas Ethics Commission	1991	Legislative	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Utah	Indep. Legislative Ethics Comm'n	2010	Legislative	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Utah	Washington State Legis. Ethics Bd.	No response	Legislative	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	LI Gov.
Washington	Washington Pub. Disclosure Comm'n	1973	Other	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
West Virginia	Washington Exec. Ethics Board	No response	Executive	5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
West Virginia	West Virginia Ethics Commission	1989	Executive	12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Wisconsin	Government Accountability Board	2007	Executive	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	SOS
Totals				Average = 7	36	46	39	28	39	41	28	23	33	8						

Sources: NCSL, Ethics State Ethics Commissions, October 2011; NCSL, State Ethics Commissions: Powers and Duties, November 2011; State Ethics Commissions: Jurisdiction, November 2011; Campaign Finance KLRD; Kansas Legislative Research Department, January 28, 2013

Responsible Agencies in States With No Ethics Commission

	Public Disclosure Statements	Lobbyist Expenditure Reports	Campaign Finance
Arizona	Secretary of State	Secretary of State receives reports and refers to AG for enforcement if there is reasonable cause to believe there was a violation.	Secretary of State receives filings, can assess civil penalties for late filings, etc. If reasonable cause to believe there are violations of the Act, refer to AG for enforcement.
Idaho	N/A	Secretary of State receives the reports; AG prosecutes violations.	Secretary of State receives and inspects the filings, and investigates complaints. AG prosecutes violations of the Act.
New Hampshire	Secretary of State	Secretary of State receives reports; AG examines filings and handles enforcement	Secretary of State receives filings; AG examines filings, investigates complaints and handles enforcement.
New Mexico	Secretary of State	Secretary of State complies and reviews reports. Can assess penalties and refer to AG for enforcement	Secretary of State receives and reviews filings, refers possible violations to DA or AG for investigation and enforcement.
North Dakota	Secretary of State	Secretary of State receives reports, can assess civil penalties. Could be subject to criminal prosecution.	Secretary of State receives filings and may arrange an audit of any substantial irregularity that is evident or reasonably alleged. Could be subject to prosecution.
South Dakota	Secretary of State	Secretary of State receives reports and can impose administrative penalties for untimely filing.	Secretary of State receives filings. AG investigates and prosecutes violations and may bring action for civil penalties.
Vermont	N/A	Secretary of State receives reports, collects penalties for untimely filing. AG investigates complaints alleging violations of law.	Secretary of State receives filings. AG has civil investigation authority if there is reason to believe a violation has been committed.
Virginia	Secretary of Commonwealth	Secretary of Commonwealth receives reports and assesses and collects civil penalties for untimely filing. Violation of the Act is a misdemeanor.	State Board of Elections receives and reviews filings for completeness and timeliness. Violations and complaints of unlawful conduct are reported to the appropriate attorneys for the Commonwealth.
Wyoming	Secretary of State	Secretary of State receives and complies reports. Knowingly filing false information is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine.	Secretary of State receives filings, can assess civil penalties, and reports violations of the Election Code to the AG.

Source: Individual state websites, statutes, officials.

Kansas Legislative Research Department, January 28, 2012