

## ETHICS COMMISSION

### GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Source of Funds	FY19 Adjusted Base	FY20 Recommended	% Change Over FY19	FY21 Recommended	% Change Over FY20
GPR	843,400	910,600	8.0	911,300	0.1
PR-O	501,200	514,000	2.6	514,500	0.1
TOTAL	1,344,600	1,424,600	5.9	1,425,800	0.1

### FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

Source of Funds	FY19 Adjusted Base	FY20 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY19	FY21 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY20
GPR	4.55	4.55	0.00	4.55	0.00
PR-O	3.45	3.45	0.00	3.45	0.00
TOTAL	8.00	8.00	0.00	8.00	0.00

### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The commission is comprised of six members, who serve for five-year terms. One member is appointed by the Senate majority leader; one is appointed by the Senate minority leader; one is appointed by the speaker of the Assembly; one is appointed by the Assembly minority leader; and two are individuals who formerly served as judges for a court of record in this state, who were elected to the positions in which they served, and who are nominated by the Governor with the advice and consent of a majority of the members of the Senate. The transition plan from the Government Accountability Board to the commission put forth by the Department of Administration established a rotational term schedule of the commissioners. The commission elects a chair and vice-chair from its members by a majority vote.

The administrator serves as the agency head, and is responsible for the daily operations of the commission. The commission staff is nonpartisan. The commission administers and enforces Wisconsin law pertaining to campaign finance, lobbying and ethics.

Commission activities are arranged by five general functions: general administration; assistance to state public officials, candidates, lobbyists, principals, political committees and officeholders; assistance to local governments; education and training; and enforcement. Within these functional areas, the commission develops policy, issues formal and informal opinions, promulgates administrative rules, prescribes procedures and forms, audits disclosure reports, carries out investigations, conducts hearings and reviews appeals, brings civil actions to assess forfeitures, and addresses other related activities.

## **Ethics Commission**

### **MISSION**

The mission of the commission is to promote and strengthen the faith and confidence of the people of Wisconsin in their government; support the operation of open and responsible government; preserve the integrity of the governmental decision-making process; and protect the rights of individuals through the administration of Wisconsin's campaign finance, lobbying and ethics laws and through readily available and understandable disclosure of information.

### **PROGRAMS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

Note: Goals, objectives and activities have been modified.

#### **Program 1: Ethics, Campaign Finance and Lobbying Regulation**

Goal: Facilitate compliance with the requirements of Wisconsin's campaign finance, lobbying and ethics laws.

Objective/Activity: Provide training materials and assistance to the regulated community and the public, focusing on applicable registration and reporting requirements.

Objective/Activity: Conduct timely audits of registration and report information, consistent with statutory requirements.

Objective/Activity: Provide formal and informal advisory opinions, as well as informal guidance, in a timely manner upon request.

Goal: Support the operation of open and responsible government, preserve the integrity of governmental decision making and protect the rights of individuals.

Objective/Activity: Promptly make reported campaign finance, lobbying and financial disclosure information publicly available.

Objective/Activity: Maintain the Wisconsin Campaign Finance Information System (CFIS), Eye on Lobbying Web site and Statements of Economic Interests Web site in order to facilitate the registration and reporting requirements under applicable Wisconsin statutes, as well as making the disclosure of reported information readily accessible and understandable.

Objective/Activity: Investigate complaints of possible violations of the ethics code, lobbying law and campaign finance law and seek appropriate remedies as circumstances merit.

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**PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

**2017 AND 2018 GOALS AND ACTUALS**

<b>Prog. No.</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>Goal 2017</b>	<b>Actual 2017</b>	<b>Goal 2018</b>	<b>Actual 2018</b>
1.	Percentage of fees received by electronic payment methods.	50%	22.6%	65%	46.6%
1.	Percentage of campaign finance registrations completed electronically.	50%	70.2%	55%	100%
1.	Percentage of campaign finance reports filed electronically.	50%	74.1%	55%	100%
1.	Percentage of campaign finance reports filed on or before the required date.	99%	86.7%	99%	91.2%
1.	Percentage of lobbyist time reports completed on or before the required date.	99%	98.6%	99%	99.6%
1.	Percentage of registered principals completing their Statements of Lobbying Activities and Expenditures on or before the required date.	99%	99.1%	99%	99.8%
1.	Percentage of required Statements of Economic Interest filed on or before the required date.	99%	96%	99%	95%

Note: Based on fiscal year.

Note: Campaign finance registrations and reports are now required to be submitted electronically. All registrations and reports for Actual 2018 have been submitted electronically, and the commission no longer accepts any other form of submission.

**2019, 2020 AND 2021 GOALS**

<b>Prog. No.</b>	<b>Performance Measure<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Goal 2019</b>	<b>Goal 2020</b>	<b>Goal 2021</b>
1.	Percentage of fees received by electronic payment methods.	50%	55%	60%
1.	Percentage of campaign finance reports filed on or before required date.	92%	95%	99%
1.	Percentage of committees in compliance, based on audit findings.	90%	93%	95%
1.	Percentage of lobbyist time reports completed on or before the required date.	99%	99%	99%

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<b>Prog. No.</b>	<b>Performance Measure<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Goal 2019</b>	<b>Goal 2020</b>	<b>Goal 2021</b>
1.	Percentage of registered principals completing their Statements of Lobbying Activities and Expenditures on or before the required date.	99%	99%	99%
1.	Percentage of principals in compliance, based on audit findings.	99%	99%	99%
1.	Percentage of required Statements of Economic Interest filed on or before the required date.	96%	97%	99%
1.	Statements of Economic Interest filed electronically.	90%	92%	95%

Note: Based on fiscal year.

<sup>1</sup>The performance measures and goals for the upcoming biennium have been revised.

**ETHICS COMMISSION**

**GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Full Funding of Administrator and Ethics Specialist
2. Full Funding for Commissioner Per Diems
3. Standard Budget Adjustments

**Ethics Commission**

**Table 1  
Department Budget Summary by Funding Source (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY18	ADJUSTED BASE FY19	AGENCY REQUEST FY20	AGENCY REQUEST FY21	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY20	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY21
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	\$650.1	\$843.4	\$910.6	\$911.3	\$910.6	\$911.3
State Operations	650.1	843.4	910.6	911.3	910.6	911.3
PROGRAM REVENUE (2)	\$360.5	\$501.2	\$514.0	\$514.5	\$514.0	\$514.5
State Operations	360.5	501.2	514.0	514.5	514.0	514.5
TOTALS - ANNUAL	\$1,010.7	\$1,344.6	\$1,424.6	\$1,425.8	\$1,424.6	\$1,425.8
State Operations	1,010.7	1,344.6	1,424.6	1,425.8	1,424.6	1,425.8

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

**Table 2  
Department Position Summary by Funding Source (in FTE positions) (4)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY19	AGENCY REQUEST FY20	AGENCY REQUEST FY21	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY20	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY21
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55
PROGRAM REVENUE (2)	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.45
TOTALS - ANNUAL	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

**Ethics Commission**

**Table 3  
Department Budget Summary by Program (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY18	ADJUSTED BASE FY19	AGENCY REQUEST FY20      FY21		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY20      FY21	
1. Ethics, campaign finance and lobbying regulation	\$1,010.7	\$1,344.6	\$1,424.6	\$1,425.8	\$1,424.6	\$1,425.8
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$1,010.7	\$1,344.6	\$1,424.6	\$1,425.8	\$1,424.6	\$1,425.8

**Table 4  
Department Position Summary by Program (in FTE positions) (4)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY19	AGENCY REQUEST FY20      FY21		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY20      FY21	
1. Ethics, campaign finance and lobbying regulation	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

## Ethics Commission

### 1. Full Funding of Administrator and Ethics Specialist

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY20		FY21		FY20		FY21	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	14,100	0.00	14,100	0.00	14,100	0.00	14,100	0.00
PR-O	20,100	0.00	20,100	0.00	20,100	0.00	20,100	0.00
TOTAL	34,200	0.00	34,200	0.00	34,200	0.00	34,200	0.00

The Governor recommends fully funding the position salaries and fringe benefits of the commission's administrator and an ethics specialist position. These positions were filled after the payroll snapshot used for full funding in the budget was made.

### 2. Full Funding for Commissioner Per Diems

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY20		FY21		FY20		FY21	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	1,600	0.00	1,600	0.00	1,600	0.00	1,600	0.00
TOTAL	1,600	0.00	1,600	0.00	1,600	0.00	1,600	0.00

The Governor recommends fully funding the commissioners' per diems. The base funding does not currently include the amount required in statute for the commissioners' per diems.

### 3. Standard Budget Adjustments

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY20		FY21		FY20		FY21	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	51,500	0.00	52,200	0.00	51,500	0.00	52,200	0.00
PR-O	-7,300	0.00	-6,800	0.00	-7,300	0.00	-6,800	0.00
TOTAL	44,200	0.00	45,400	0.00	44,200	0.00	45,400	0.00

The Governor recommends adjusting the commission's base budget for: (a) full funding of continuing position salaries and fringe benefits (\$66,300 in each year); and (b) full funding of lease and directed moves costs (-\$22,100 in FY20 and -\$20,900 in FY21).