

Maine

- Commission on Government Ethics and Election Practices
 - Appointed leaders from each political party in both the House and Senate each submit three candidates for the commission, and the House and Senate leadership also submit three candidates to the Governor for review. The Governor appoints four members to the commission, no more than two from each party.
 - Meets once per month unless a complaint is filed
 - Can investigate candidates to determine facts concerning registration
 - May subpoena witnesses
 - A person may apply in writing to request an investigation
 - The State Auditor shall assist the commission as requested
 - Working papers of the commission are confidential and may not be disclosed
 - The Attorney General shall assist the commission as requested and carry out prosecutions for the commission
 - Commission members yearly disclose positions held in PACs, party committees, non-profit or commercial organizations, or expenditures over \$1500 to campaigns or lobbyists made by either the member or their domestic partner
 - Any complaints or ongoing investigations are kept confidential

Maintain a docket of registered lobbyists

Rhode Island [Link](#)

- State Ethics Commission
 - “The ethics commission shall have the authority to investigate violations of the code of ethics and to impose penalties, as provided by law; and the commission shall have the power to remove from office officials who are not subject to impeachment.” – RI constitution
 - “All elected and appointed officials and employees of state and local government, of boards, commissions and agencies shall be subject to the code of ethics.” – RI constitution
 - All commission records, other than those relating to ongoing investigations or complaints, shall be open to public inspection.
 - Consists of nine state citizens
 - Four appointed by the Governor
 - Five appointed by the Governor from a list submitted by the following:
 - House Minority leader
 - House Majority leader
 - Senate Minority leader
 - Senate Majority leader
 - Speaker of the House
 - No Commission Member may serve more than one full five-year term.
 - Members may not hold public office, hold office in any political party, or participate or contribute to a political campaign.

- Commission members receive \$100 per day in compensation

New Hampshire

- Executive Branch Ethics Committee - Established in 2006 to issue guidelines, interpretive rulings, and advisory opinions relative to standards for ethical conduct in the executive branch and to resolve issues, questions, or complaints involving executive branch officials who are not classified State employees. [Link](#)
 - Consists of 7 members
 - 3 nominated by the Governor - One Democrat, one Republican, and one independent.
 - 2 nominated by Secretary of State - One Democrat, and one Republican
 - 2 nominated by Treasurer - One Democrat, and one Republican
 - All nominations confirmed by Governor and executive council
 - Members serve 3 year terms and receive no compensation
 - Issues guidelines consistent with the executive branch code of ethics
 - Issues interpretive rulings
 - Renders advisory opinions
 - Investigates unauthorized disclosure of information
- Declared ethics policy issued by the state supreme court. [Link](#)
- Defines standard operating procedures for government agencies.
- "Executive branch officials shall avoid conflicts of interest. Executive branch officials shall not participate in any matter in which they, or their spouse or dependents, have a private interest which may directly or indirectly affect or influence the performance of their duties." [Link](#)
- Defines and prohibits "misuse of position." [Link](#)
 - Prohibits disclosure or use confidential or privileged information acquired in the performance of his or her duties for the state for personal benefit or for financial gain
 - Prohibits the use of his or her position with the state to secure privileges or advantages for himself or herself, which are not generally available to governmental employees, or to secure governmental privileges or advantages for others to which they are not otherwise entitled.
- Candidates for political elective office must disclose campaign contributions to the Secretary of State within 5 days of receiving the contribution. [Link](#)
- Ethics of simultaneous employment [Link](#)
 - No public employees can volunteer on multi-branch commission, committee, board, or similar governmental entity or serve as a lobbyist.
 - No public employees may be employed by or maintain an ownership interest in an organization that is promoting changes in policy relating to the executive branch.
- An executive branch employee may not register as a lobbyist within six months of leaving state employment. [Link](#)
- Executive branch officials are prohibited from hiring, evaluating, setting salary for, supervising, or terminating family members. [Link](#)

- Secretary of State is mandated to maintain a list of public officials required to file campaign contributions. [Link](#)
 - Complaint procedures.
 - Submitted in writing under oath
 - All information is confidential
 - Committee has the power to subpoena
 - Any committee member involved in a complaint or has personal knowledge shall not participate in the proceedings
- Any violation of the code of ethics shall be prosecuted for a misdemeanor.

Georgia - [Link](#)

- Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission
 - 5 members
 - 3 appointed by the Governor (no more than two from the same party)
 - One appointed by the Senate Committee of Assignments
 - One appointed by the Speaker of the House
 - Four year terms of office
 - “The commission shall elect a chairperson, and vice chairperson, and other officers it deems necessary.” – Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Act
 - Powers and duties:
 - Work with other departments, agencies, and organizations in order to implement the Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Act
 - Subpoena witnesses
 - Prosecute actions in court
 - Publish recommendations and studies for compliance with ethics law
 - Develop a filing system for disclosure forms
 - Make investigations in to allegations of ethics violation and report violations to appropriate law enforcement
 - May enforce a civil penalty up to \$25,000 in some cases.
 - Make an annual report to the General Assembly and Governor on activities.
 - The Attorney General is responsible for prosecuting violations of ethics law.
 - Complaints must be submitted in writing and under oath.
- Conduct
 - No person or organization may donate more than:
 - \$5,000 for a primary or general election
 - \$3,000 for a primary general run-off election
 - Campaigns must disclose all donations
 - No public official may engage in lobbying for one year after leaving office.
 - Any vendor who expends \$250 or more on gifts to state employees in a year must file a disclosure report with the Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission. - [Link](#)
- Financial Disclosure

- Public officials must file bi-annual statements of financial disclosure with the commission.
- Commission is responsible for reviewing disclosure statements for compliance.
- Financial disclosure forms must contain:
 - Each fee or honorarium received.
 - A list of any positions held.
 - Any business entity in which principal is held by filer or spouse.
 - More than a 5% interest
 - Or valued at \$5,000
 - Any real property owned by filer or spouse.
 - Filer and spouse's occupation and employer
 - Any source of income exceeding \$10,000
- Late fees:
 - \$125 for any late filing
 - Additional \$250 after 15 days
 - Additional \$1,000 after 45 days