



Fiscal Year FY 2021-2022

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B1)</i>	For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.
NON-RECURRING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B2)</i>	For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.
CAPITAL REQUESTS <i>(FORM C)</i>	For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.
PROVISOS <i>(FORM D)</i>	For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Meghan Walker	(803) 253-4192	mwalker@ethics.sc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Aml R. Franklin	(803) 253-4192	aml@ethics.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2021-2022 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

SIGN/DATE:	<i>Meghan Walker</i> ^{Agency Director} 7/17/20	<i>P. Childs</i> ^{Board or Commission Chair}
	<i>Meghan Walker</i>	<i>Childs Thrasher</i>

This form must be signed by the agency head - not a delegate.

Agency Name:	State Ethics Commission		
Agency Code:	R520	Section:	110

FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
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AMOUNT	\$44,419
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What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.

ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS	1 FTE - Investigator III
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How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?

PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT	Administration
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What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY	<p>The State Ethics Commission is a small agency (consisting of 18 employees) that is able to serve South Carolinians because each employee has a multitude of responsibilities and are crosstrained in the various functions of the agency. Any reduction in budget and/or staff would render this agency virtually unable to adequately perform its mission of enforcing the Ethics Reform Act.</p>
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Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS	<p>The reduction of one FTE Investigator III position would be a cost savings of approximately \$74,000.</p> <p>Reduction of a law enforcement position would also approximately reduce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vehicle - \$9,000• Weapons & Ammunition - \$1,000• Training - \$500• Uniforms & Supplies - \$1,000• Desk, Chair, Computer, Office Phone, Cell Phone - \$3,000
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What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than \$50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?

FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Request for Repeal or Revision of Regulations <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
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EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	The following requests pursuant to regulations governing the South Carolina State Ethics Commission will assist the agency in more efficiently and effectively serving the people of South Carolina with a special emphasis on those under the jurisdiction of the State Ethics Commission. <i>What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.</i>
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FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Mark "X" for all that apply:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Repeal or revision of regulations.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Other</td> </tr> </table>	Mark "X" for all that apply:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Repeal or revision of regulations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
Mark "X" for all that apply:											
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Repeal or revision of regulations.										
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.										
<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.										
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other										

METHOD OF CALCULATION	N/A <i>Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.</i>
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REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	N/A <i>Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?</i>
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REDUCTION OF REGULATION	<p>52-204(C) Official Forms and Documents.</p> <p>C. All filings required under the Act shall be made by filing the original form or paper with the Commission.</p> <hr/> <p>52-205(A)(B) and (C) Date of Filing with the Commission Defined.</p> <p>A. The date of filing a form or paper with the Commission by first class mail, certified mail, hand delivery, or private courier is the date of receipt in the Commission's offices as indicated by the date stamped on the form or paper by an official Commission stamp; provided, however, a document accompanied by an affidavit of service shall receive the filing date set forth by affidavit.</p> <p>B. To meet a filing deadline, a paper transmitted by facsimile is filed the date of receipt of the facsimile in the Commission's offices if the original signed paper is filed within ten days of the original filing deadline. The Commission shall consider a facsimile not to have been received if the original paper is not filed within ten days.</p> <p>C. A form which is returned to the sender as incomplete is deemed filed on the initial date of receipt if the completed form is refiled with the Commission within ten days. A form which has been returned for completion and which is not refiled with the Commission within ten days shall be deemed not to have been filed.</p> <hr/> <p>52-601(B), (C) and (D) General.</p> <p>B. The original and one copy of the form shall be filed as provided in these regulations and the Act.</p> <p>C. The Statement of Economic Interests reporting period is the previous calendar year from January 1, through December 31. The first Statement of Economic Interest is required to be filed upon taking the oath of office or being employed with the State or political subdivision. Thereafter, an annual updated Statement is required to be filed with the Commission no later than April 15. The Contract Disclosure Form reporting period is for the fiscal year of July 1, through June 30 of each year and is due on June 30 of each year.</p> <p>D. A person required to file a Statement who is no longer in office on April 15 of the year following the first filing, is not required to file an updated Statement.</p> <hr/> <p>52-607 Candidates' and Incumbents' Statements of Economic Interests.</p> <p>A. This regulation governs the filing of a Statement of Economic Interest for all candidates for public office in this State except for members of or candidates to the office of State Senator and State Representative, candidates to or members of Federal office, candidates for or members of the judiciary except for probate judges and persons who are public officials and have filed a statement in the same calendar year as the year in which they file a declaration for candidacy or petition for nomination.</p> <p>B. A Statement of Economic Interests shall be filed as follows:</p> <p>(1) A public official who has filed a Statement of Economic Interests in the same calendar year as his declaration for candidacy or petition for nomination shall complete the first page [hereinafter "information page"] of the Commission's Statement of Economic Interests only and file the first page of the Statement with the official with whom the candidate files a declaration of candidacy or petition for nomination.</p> <p>(2) A person who has not filed a Statement of Economic Interests in the same calendar year as his declaration for candidacy or petition for nomination shall complete the entire Statement of Economic Interests Form for the preceding calendar year and file the entire Statement with the official with whom the candidate files his declaration of candidacy or petition for nomination.</p> <p>C. No later than five business days after the candidacy books close, the official receiving the declarations of candidacy or petitions for nomination shall file a copy of the Information Page and completed Statements of Economic Interests with the Commission along with the Candidates Roster.</p> <p>D. The Commission will review the Candidate's Roster and Statements of Economic Interests, Information Pages and certify to the election official that the candidates have properly filed in which case the candidates' names may appear on the election ballot. Any candidate who fails to file a Statement of Economic Interests shall not have his name appear on the election ballot. It is the responsibility of the official receiving the declaration of candidacy or petition for nomination to insure that each candidate has filed.</p> <p>(1) An individual who becomes a candidate other than by filing shall, no later than fifteen business days after becoming a candidate, file a Statement of Economic Interests for the preceding calendar year with the Commission.</p> <p>(2) If a candidate files for office before January first of the year in which the election is held, he must file a supplementary statement of economic interests with the Commission covering the preceding calendar year no later than April first of the year in which the election is held.</p> <p>(3) A candidate who is not a public official otherwise filing a statement has the same disclosure requirements as a public official with the exception of reporting gifts.</p> <p>E. On the fifth day following the election, the election official shall file a Successful Candidate Roster with the Commission providing the successful candidate's name and elected position.</p> <hr/> <p>52-702(A) Initiating a Complaint.</p> <p>A. A complaint may be filed against any person covered by the Act except members of the General Assembly. The Ethics Committees of the respective Houses of the General Assembly have jurisdiction over candidates for and members of the General Assembly.</p> <p><i>Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?</i></p>
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	<p>Repeal of the above regulations will bring consistency to both the regulations and the Ethics Reform Act. Regulations were not repealed to reflect the requirement that filings be done electronically. The continued existence of these regulations has caused some confusion.</p> <p>Perhaps more importantly, the regulations refer to April 15 as the deadline for required filers to file his or her Statement of Economic Interests – this deadline is inconsistent with the updated deadline of March 30 and has caused some confusion.</p>
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SUMMARY

Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?