



Chapter 1: Lobbying Overview and Definitions

Legislative Law Article 1-A, also known as the “**Lobbying Act**”, requires individuals and organizations, known as Lobbyists and Clients, to publicly disclose their identities, activities and expenditures by filing Reports at regular intervals with the Joint Commission on Public Ethics (“JCOPE”) if they either spend or anticipate spending more than the \$5,000 annual lobbying threshold on reportable Lobbying Activities at the State and/or Municipal level. **Lobbying** or **Lobbying Activity** is defined in the law as any Attempt to Influence certain government decision-making; which includes the passage or defeat of any legislation or resolution and other government activities.

Every year, Lobbyists and Clients spend millions of dollars trying to influence State and Municipal governments. Money, time, and other resources devoted to lobbying efforts must be calculated to determine whether the \$5,000 annual lobbying threshold has been met or is reasonably anticipated to be exceeded in any calendar year during a biennial registration period.

In addition, Lobbyists and Clients are subject to certain ethics provisions in the Lobbying Act and must comply with random audits conducted by JCOPE. These audits are conducted year-round by JCOPE, and allow the Commission to verify the accuracy of Filings drawn by random statistical selection.

Finally, every individual identified as a Lobbyist must complete regular ethics training at least once in any three-year period during which they are registered as a Lobbyist.

Who is subject to the Lobbying Act?

The Lobbying Act applies to Lobbyists, Public Corporations, and Clients, including the individuals employed by them, who in any calendar year either reasonably anticipate incurring, expending, or receiving, or actually incur, expend, or receive more than \$5,000 in combined **Reportable Compensation** and **Reportable Expenses** for **Lobbying Activities** on a State and/or Municipal level.

What constitutes Reportable Lobbying Activity?

Reportable **Lobbying Activity** is any Attempt to Influence activity included in Section 1-c(c) of the Lobbying Act.

Reporting requirements under the Lobbying Act are triggered when:

- (1) there is an Attempt to Influence a Lobbying Activity as described in the Lobbying Act (**See Chapter 1: Lobbying Overview and Definitions** for the description of Attempt to Influence), **and**
- (2) the cumulative **Reportable Compensation** and **Reportable Expenses** received, expended or incurred for any such activities exceeds \$5,000 in any calendar year during a biennial registration period.

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The term **Lobbying** or **Lobbying Activity** includes both Direct Lobbying and Grassroots Lobbying. Lobbying Activity that includes only Grassroots Lobbying may not necessarily require the identification or disclosure of any Individual Lobbyists. (See **Chapter 1: Lobbying Overview and Definitions** for the descriptions of Direct and Grassroots Lobbying.)

Are there requirements under the Lobbying Act other than filing Reports?

In addition to the registration and reporting requirements, individuals and organizations are also required to:

- Retain documents for three years to substantiate the information included in the Reports;
- Refrain from giving/receiving Compensation on a contingent basis as these are prohibited by the Lobbying Act;
- Adhere to the gift rules in the Lobbying Act and Part 934 of JCOPE's regulations; and
- Complete a mandatory online ethics training (See **Chapter 1. Lobbying Overview and Definitions**, "Mandatory Ethics Training" for more information).

LOBBYING DEFINITIONS

Lobbyist

A person or organization who engages in **Lobbying Activity, which** includes Retained, Employed, and Designated Lobbyists. While the term *Lobbyist* includes officers, directors, trustees, employees, counsels, or agents of colleges, as defined by section two of the Education Law, it does **not** include any other officer, director, trustee, employee, counsel or agent of the State, or any Municipality or subdivision thereof when discharging their official duties.

➤ **Retained Lobbyist**

A person or organization engaged in **Lobbying Activity** for the benefit of an unaffiliated Client.

➤ **Employed Lobbyist**

A person who engages in **Lobbying Activity** on behalf of the organization by which they are employed.

A person who is paid by a Lobbying Organization as an Independent Contractor may be considered an *Employed Lobbyist* if:

- the Independent Contractor's only source of Lobbying Compensation is the Lobbying Organization;
- the Independent Contractor's Lobbying Activities are supervised by the Lobbying Organization; and
- the Independent Contractor is not otherwise identified as an Individual Lobbyist on any other Statement of Registration.

NOTE: A person who is paid by a Lobbying Organization as an Independent Contractor but does not meet the above criteria is considered a **Retained Lobbyist**.

➤ **Designated Lobbyist**

A person who lobbies on behalf of a Client as a board member, director or officer, whether compensated or uncompensated, but does not offer services to other Clients as a *Retained Lobbyist*. The term *Designated Lobbyist* may also include an elected official who engages in **Lobbying Activity** on behalf of a Public Corporation.

➤ **Individual Lobbyist**

A person who personally engages in Direct and/or Grassroots Lobbying on behalf of the Principal Lobbyist for the benefit of the Client.

Client

A person or organization on whose behalf **Lobbying Activity** is conducted. A Client can retain, employ, or designate any person or organization to carry on **Lobbying Activity** on behalf of itself or another.

The term **Client** includes both **Contractual Clients** and **Beneficial Clients**.

➤ **Contractual Client**

An individual or organization that retains the services of a Lobbyist for the benefit of itself or another.

➤ **Beneficial Client**

The specific individual or organization on whose behalf and at whose request or behest **Lobbying Activity** is conducted.

An individual or organization who engages in **Lobbying Activity** on its own behalf is a Beneficial Client.

Members of a Coalition who exceed \$5,000 in cumulative annual **Reportable Compensation** and **Reportable Expenses** are Beneficial Clients.

While a Contractual and Beneficial Client must be identified for every lobbying arrangement, the Contractual Client may also be the Beneficial Client.

Beneficial Clients are NOT:

- Members of the general public.
- The members of a population or class who benefit from Lobbying conducted by an organization.

Multi-Party Lobbying Relationships

Some Lobbyist/Client relationships include multiple Lobbyists, multiple Clients, or multiple entities comprising a single Client, and all of these entities must be disclosed in Lobbying Reports filed with JCOPE. These Reports must disclose all Lobbyists performing services, whether on a single contract or through a subcontracting relationship.

➤ **Prime Lobbyist (Principal Lobbyist)**

A Lobbyist who, after entering into a Lobbying agreement with a Contractual Client, retains the services of another to perform a portion of the services within the scope of the agreement.

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➤ Sub-Lobbyist

A Lobbyist who is engaged to perform services by a Prime (Principal) Lobbyist, as part of an agreement between the Prime Lobbyist and the Contractual Client, where the Principal Lobbyist (Prime Lobbyist) hires an outside Lobbyist (Sub-Lobbyist) to perform a portion of the services within the scope of the agreement for the Prime Lobbyist.

A Prime Lobbyist and Sub-Lobbyist are **both** subject to the reporting requirements of the Lobbying Act, but are only required to disclose the reportable Lobbying Activity and Compensation and Expenses related to the services they each provide, respectively.

➤ Co-Lobbyist

All Lobbyists retained by a Client and whose names are listed on the same single retainer agreement or contract are Co-Lobbyists. Each Co-Lobbyist is required to file separate Lobbying Reports with JCOPE.

Co-Lobbyists must identify other Co-Lobbyists on their Filings, but need disclose only their own Lobbying Activity and Compensation and Expenses.

Coalitions

A group of otherwise-unaffiliated entities or members who pool funds for the primary purpose of engaging in **Lobbying Activities** on behalf of the members of the Coalition.

A Coalition does **not** include any organization qualified as exempt under sections 501(c)(5) or (c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code.

See **Chapter 4: Coalitions** for filing requirements.

Responsible Party

The Lobbyist or Client's Chief Administrative Officer, or a designee, who is responsible for filing the Statements or Reports required under the Lobbying Act.

All Statements or Reports required under the Lobbying Act or set forth in the Commission's regulations must be signed by the Responsible Party for the Lobbyist or Client, as applicable, or another who has been designated to sign and file such required Statement or Report. Such a designation must be signed by the Responsible Party and Designee, completed and submitted to the Commission before the due date of such Statements or Reports.

Lobbying Activity

The term "**Lobbying**" or "**Lobbying Activity**" includes both **Direct Lobbying and Grassroots Lobbying** and includes *Attempts to Influence* an activity intended to support, oppose, modify, delay, expedite, or

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otherwise affect any of the following actions (enumerated in sections 1-c(c)(i)-(x) of the Lobbying Act):

- (i) the passage or defeat of any legislation or resolution by either house of the state Legislature, including but not limited to, the introduction or intended introduction of such legislation or resolution, or approval or disapproval of any legislation by the governor;
- (ii) the adoption, issuance, rescission, modification or terms of a gubernatorial executive order;
- (iii) the adoption or rejection of any rule or regulation having the force and effect of law by a state agency;
- (iv) the outcome of any rate making proceeding by a state agency;
- (v) any determination:
 - (A) by a public official, or by a person or entity working in cooperation with a public official related to a governmental procurement, or
 - (B) by an officer or employee of the unified court system, or by a person or entity working in cooperation with an officer or employee of the Unified Court System related to a governmental procurement;
- (vi) the approval, disapproval, implementation or administration of tribal-state compacts, memoranda of understanding, or any other tribal-state agreements and any other state actions related to Class III gaming as provided in 25 U.S.C. § 2701, except to the extent designation of such activities as "lobbying" is barred by the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, by a public official or by a person or entity working in cooperation with a public official in relation to such approval, disapproval, implementation or administration;
- (vii) the passage or defeat of any local law, ordinance, resolution, or regulation by any Municipality or subdivision thereof;
- (viii) the adoption, issuance, rescission, modification or terms of an executive order issued by the chief executive officer of a Municipality;
- (ix) the adoption or rejection of any rule, regulation, or resolution having the force and effect of a local law ordinance, resolution, or regulation; or
- (x) the outcome of any rate making proceeding by any Municipality or subdivision thereof.

➤ **Direct Lobbying**

An Attempt to Influence a Lobbying Activity through Direct or Preliminary Contact with a Public Official, or through communication or interaction directed to a Public Official, or the Public Official's staff.

Direct Contact means any communication or interaction directed to a Public Official, including, but not limited to:

- Verbal communications;

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- Written communications;
- Electronic communications, including electronic mail, Social Media communications, and Internet communications;
- Attendance at a meeting with a Public Official; or
- Presence on a phone call with a Public Official, when the Official is aware of such presence.

Preliminary Contact is when the Lobbyist knows or has **Reason to Know** that the Client will Attempt to Influence a Public Official on a matter covered by the Lobbying Act, and includes any of the following:

- Scheduling a meeting or telephone call with a Public Official and a Client;
- Introducing a Client to a Public Official; or
- Any other contact with a Public Official on behalf of a Client.

NOTE: A person who schedules a meeting or places a call in a purely administrative capacity is **not** required to be identified as an Individual Lobbyist; such activity is attributable to the person who directed that the call be made or that the meeting be set up.

➤ **Grassroots Lobbying**

An Attempt to Influence a Public Official **indirectly**, or through a person or organization who solicits another to deliver a message to a Public Official.

Grassroots Lobbying Communication means a communication that:

- References or otherwise implicates a Lobbying Activity;
- Takes a clear position on that action; and
- Includes a Call to Action.

NOTE: The audience or recipients of a Grassroots Lobbying Communication who voluntarily (and without Compensation) subsequently deliver the message to the Public Official are **not** considered Grassroots Lobbyists.

Any of the following could be considered Grassroots Lobbying if the required elements of a Grassroots Lobbying Communication are otherwise present:

- Rallies;
- Billboards;
- Print media advertisements;

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- Websites;
- Social Media communications;
- Television and radio commercials;
- Letter writing campaigns; or
- Personal requests by a Lobbyist for another person to contact a Public Official.

Lobby Day

Select days used by organizations, often annual, when members of an organization meet with Public Officials to advocate on issues relevant to the organization.

Reportable Compensation and Reportable Expenses

All Compensation and Expenses associated **Lobbying Activity** should be accounted for using accrual basis accounting, i.e., costs are reported in the period in which they are incurred.

For purposes of calculating total Compensation and Expenses received, expended or incurred by a Lobbyist or Client, the \$5,000 annual threshold shall be computed cumulatively for all Lobbying Activities undertaken by the Lobbyist or Client (whether as a Beneficial Client or Contractual Client).

Reportable Compensation

Any salary, fee, gift, payment, benefit, loan, advance, or any other thing of value paid, owed, given, or promised to the Lobbyist by the Client, or employer, in exchange for Lobbying or services that are otherwise in furtherance of Lobbying Activity, including year-end or other bonuses, but not fringe benefits.

Reportable Expenses

Any cost of Lobbying Activity that is not Compensation paid to a Lobbyist and that is incurred by or reimbursed in connection with a Lobbying Activity.

Reportable Expenses attributable to an **Organization's Lobby Day** must be disclosed. The Expenses may include, but are not limited to:

- time spent by employees at the Lobby Day if such employees are compensated for their time;
- staff time allocated to planning the Lobby Day;
- expenses related to placards, signs, t-shirts or other advocacy paraphernalia; and
- expenses related to transportation to and from the Lobby Day.

Reportable Expenses attributable to an **Organization's Social Media activities** that constitute Direct Lobbying may include, but are not limited to:

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- consulting services,
- staff time allocated to planning and posting,
- search engine optimization and sponsoring, and
- advertising.

Example: *If an Organization has drafted a post on its Facebook page and requires its employees to share the post and tag a Public Official as part of a Social Media Campaign conducted by the Organization, such employees need not be identified as Individual Lobbyists of the Organization. However, the Organization must calculate the staff time spent drafting the language it plans to post and the time spent by its employees posting the Social Media message. Such calculations must be included in Reportable Lobbying Expenses attributable to the Organization.*

➤ **Expense Types**

1. **Non-lobbying staff salaries** – Compensation paid to those professional and clerical employees who do **not** engage in Direct or Grassroots Lobbying Activity.
 - (a) Salaries of non-lobbying staff should be reported in the aggregate.
 - (b) Filers should have a good faith methodology that demonstrates how the allocation of non-lobbying staff time was reached.
2. **Aggregated** – Expenses of \$75 or less may be reported as a single aggregate total.
3. **Itemized** – Expenses valued at more than \$75 must be itemized – reporting the payee, the nature of the expense, and the value.
 - (a) Clients must indicate if an Expense amount was reimbursed to a Lobbyist.
 - (b) Lobbyists must indicate if an Expense amount was reimbursed by the Client.
4. **Reimbursed** – Lobbyist should report the aggregate value of all Expenses (regardless of value of the individual Expenses) that were reimbursed by the Client.

Reportable Expenses may include items which, in and of themselves, do not constitute **Lobbying Activity**, but when used as part of a lobbying effort become Reportable Expenses. Examples of expenses listed under the definition are non-inclusive and practitioners are encouraged to request Commission clarification prior to completing their Reports.

Reportable Expenses may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Advertising, telephone, electronic advocacy, food, beverages, tickets, entertainment, parties, receptions or similar events, advocacy rallies, consultant services, expenses for non-lobbying support staff, and courier services when said expenses are part of a lobbying effort.

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The following are **not** considered Reportable Expenses:

- State or local lobbying filing fees;
- Printing or postage that does not exceed \$500 in the aggregate in a calendar year;
- Travel, lodging, or meals for a Lobbyist;
- Any expense that is incurred in the ordinary course of business, regardless of the nature of business - for example, rent, utilities, telephones, computers; and
- Any amount reportable as a contribution under article fourteen of the election law.

Lobbyist/Client Organization

Any person or company, firm, entity, or other organization (including a Coalition) who utilizes Employed, Retained, or Designated Lobbyists to Lobby on its behalf, or incurs Lobbying Expenses on its behalf.

Municipality

A jurisdictional subdivision of the state, **including but not limited to**:

- Counties, cities, towns, villages, improvement districts and special districts with a population of more than 5,000;
- Industrial development agencies in jurisdictional subdivisions with a population of more than 5,000;
- Public authorities;
- Public corporations, except for those types of entities referenced in the first two bullets above with a population of 5,000 or less; and
- School districts of any size.

Public Corporation

A municipal corporation, including counties, cities, towns, villages and school districts, a district corporation, and a public benefit corporation as defined in section sixty-six of the General Construction law.

Public Official

1. The governor, lieutenant governor, comptroller, or attorney general;
2. Members of the State legislature;
3. Officers and employees of the legislature;
4. State officers and employees; and

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5. Municipal officers and employees.

No individual shall be deemed a Public Official solely based on service on an Advisory Board.

Reportable Business Relationship

A relationship in which a Lobbyist or Client of a Lobbyist:

1. pays, has paid or promises Compensation to an individual that they know or have **Reason to Know** is a **State Person**, to an entity in which they know or have **Reason to Know** that a **State Person** has **Requisite Involvement**, or to a third-party as directed by the **State Person** or the entity;
2. The Compensation is or was in exchange for goods, services or anything of value either performed or provided by, or intended to be performed or provided by, the **State Person** or an entity in which the **State Person** has the **Requisite Involvement**; and
3. The total value of the Compensation exceeds \$1,000 within a Calendar Year.

See **Chapter 9: Reportable Business Relationships** for more information.

State agency

A department, board, bureau, commission, division, office, council, committee or officer of the State, whether permanent or temporary, a public benefit corporation or public authority at least one of whose members is appointed by the governor, authorized by law to make rules or to make final decisions in adjudicatory proceedings.

A State agency does **not** include the judicial branch or agencies created by interstate compact or international agreement.

State Officers and Employees

1. Heads of State departments and their deputies and assistants, other than members of the board of regents of the university of the State of New York who receive no compensation or are compensated on a per diem basis;
2. Officers and employees of statewide elected officials;
3. Officers and employees of State departments, boards, bureaus, divisions, commissions, councils, or other State agencies; and
4. Members or directors of public authorities (other than multi-state authorities), public benefit corporations and commissions at least one of whose members is appointed by the governor, and employees of such authorities, corporations, and commissions.

No individual shall be deemed a State Officer and Employee solely based on service on an Advisory Board.

STATUTORY EXCEPTIONS TO LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

The following activities are **not** Lobbying Activities:

Non-lobbying legal services

Services by persons engaged in drafting, advising clients on or rendering opinions on proposed legislation, rules, regulations or rates, municipal ordinances and resolutions, executive orders, Procurement Contracts, or tribal-state compacts, memoranda of understanding, or any other tribal-state agreements or other written materials related to Class III gaming as provided in 25 U.S.C. § 2701, when such professional services are not otherwise connected with state or municipal legislative or executive action on such legislation, rules, regulations or rates, municipal ordinances and resolutions, executive orders, Procurement Contracts, or tribal-state compacts, memoranda of understanding, or any other tribal-state agreements or other written materials related to Class III gaming as provided in 25 U.S.C. § 2701.

If an organization or firm provides both Lobbying and non-lobbying legal services to a Client, the Statement of Registration should only identify as Individual Lobbyists those persons who performed Lobbying services, however, all services related to the Lobbying Activity provided by the organization or firm are Reportable Expenses.

News gathering and publication

Newspapers and other periodicals and radio and television stations, and owners and employees thereof, provided that their activities in connection with proposed legislation, rules, regulations or rates, municipal ordinances and resolutions, executive orders, tribal-state compacts, memoranda of understanding or other tribal-state agreements related to Class III gaming as provided in 25 U.S.C. §2701, or Procurement Contracts by a State Agency, Municipal Agency, Local Legislative Body, the State legislature, or the Unified Court System, are limited to the publication or broadcast of news items, editorials or other comments, or paid advertisements.

Contacts with the media

Communications with a professional journalist or newscaster, including an editorial board or editorial writer of a newspaper, magazine, news agency, press association or wire service, relating to news, as these terms are defined in section seventy-nine-h of the civil rights law, and communications relating to confidential and non-confidential news as described in subdivisions (b) and (c) of section seventy-nine-h of the civil rights law respectively and communications made pursuant to community outreach efforts for broadcast stations required by federal law.

Participation at certain public proceedings

Persons who participate as witnesses, attorneys or other representatives in public proceedings of a State or Municipal Agency with respect to all participation by such persons which is part of the public record thereof and all preparation by such persons for such participation.

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Adjudicatory Proceedings

Persons who Attempt to Influence a Public Official in an adjudicatory proceeding, as defined by section one hundred two of the state administrative procedure act.

Response to requests for information/comments

Persons who prepare or submit a response to a request for information or comments by the State legislature, the governor, or a State Agency or a committee or officer of the legislature or a State Agency, or by the Unified Court System, or by a legislative or executive body or officer of a Municipality or a commission, committee or officer of a municipal legislative or executive body.

This exception includes a response to a request for information or comments by the State Legislature at a legislative hearing.

This exception, however, applies only if the person did not urge the requesting party to make the request.

Local lobbying by IRC Section 6033(a) religious organizations

Any attempt by a church, its integrated auxiliary, or a convention or association of churches that is exempt from filing a federal income tax return under paragraph 2(A)(i) of section 6033(a) of Title 26 of the United States Code or a religious order that is exempt from filing a federal income tax return under paragraph (2)(A)(iii) of such section 6033(2) to influence passage or defeat of a local law, ordinance, resolution or regulation or any rule or regulation having the force and effect of a local law, ordinance or regulation.

Licenses and Permitting

Applications for licenses, certificates, and permits authorized by statutes or local laws or ordinances. This exception includes applications for special permits, variances, and revocable consents.

PROHIBITIONS IN THE LOBBYING ACT

Contingent Retainers

Pursuant to section 1-k, which prohibits contingent retainers, no Client may pay and no Lobbyist may receive Compensation in which the amount or rate, in whole or in part, is contingent on the outcome or terms of any Attempt to Influence a Lobbying Activity.

This prohibition applies to both the Contractual Client and Beneficial Client.

With respect to Coalitions, the Beneficial Client includes individual members of a Coalition who exceed \$5,000 in total **Reportable Compensation** and **Reportable Expenses**, and, therefore, no such member of a Coalition may enter into a contingent retainer with any Lobbyist. (See **Chapter 4: Coalitions** for filing requirements).

Any person who violates this section shall be subject to a civil penalty up to \$10,000 or the value of the contingent fee, and may be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

Stock or Equity Payments

Stock or equity payments for Lobbying Activity are presumed impermissible, and are a *per se* violation of the contingent retainer prohibition. This presumption can only be overcome by showing that the value of the stock equity is not directly dependent on the outcome of the government action. (See **19 NYCRR Part 943.5(c)(3)** of the Commission's Regulations for more information).

Gifts

It is presumptively impermissible for a Lobbyist or Client to offer or give a Gift to any Public Official. All individuals or entities required to be listed on a Statement of Registration are subject to the Gift restriction. This prohibition applies to both the Contractual Client and Beneficial Client.

With respect to Coalitions, the Beneficial Client includes individual members of a Coalition who exceed \$5,000 in **Reportable Compensation** and **Reportable Expenses**, and, therefore, such members are subject to such Gift restrictions.

Gift shall mean anything of more than Nominal Value in any form including, but not limited to: money; service; loan; travel; lodging; meals; refreshments; entertainment; discount; or a forbearance of an obligation or a promise that has a monetary value. (See **19 NYCRR Part 934** of the Commission's Regulations for more information).

Nominal Value is not defined in the Public Officers Law or Legislative Law Article 1-A. The Commission, however, generally deems an item or service with a fair market value of fifteen dollars (\$15) or less as having a Nominal Value.

Any Lobbyist or Client who violates this prohibition shall be subject to a civil penalty up to \$25,000 or

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three times the value of the gift. In addition, a person may be guilty of a class A misdemeanor for a first violation, and a class E felony for a second violation within five years of the first.

Any person convicted of or pleading guilty to such a felony may be barred from acting as a Lobbyist for a period of one year from the date of the conviction.

Procurement Lobbying – Restricted Period

Any person or organization required to file a Statement or Report pursuant to the Lobbying Act is prohibited from engaging in "**Lobbying**" or "**Lobbying Activity**" concerning a governmental procurement during the restricted period, as defined in section 1-c(m) of the Act, by contacting:

- (i) A person within the procuring entity who has not been designated pursuant to section 139-j of the State Finance Law to receive communications relative to the Governmental Procurement; or
- (ii) A person in a State Agency other than the State Agency conducting the Governmental Procurement.

A first-time violation of this provision may subject the person or organization to a civil penalty of up to \$10,000. Subsequent violations of this provision within four years of the initial violation may subject the person or organization to a civil penalty fine of up to \$25,000.

Mandatory Ethics Training for Registered Lobbyists (including Individual Lobbyists)

The Lobbying Act requires all Lobbyists to complete a mandatory online ethics training. This applies to both the Principal and Individual Lobbyists who are registered with JCOPE. The "**Ethics for Lobbyists**" course takes approximately 30 minutes to complete and can be accessed from any personal computer with an Internet connection.

The "**Ethics for Lobbyists**" course covers information provided in the Lobbying Act, the Public Officers Law, JCOPE regulations and advisory opinions, and the Election Law. The training also includes best practices for meeting the various statutory requirements.

Such training must be completed by a registered Lobbyist once every three years, as follows:

1. Complete the training within 60 days of initial registration;
2. Complete the training again within three years of the date the Lobbyist first or subsequently completed the training, if such Lobbyist is still registered to lobby at such time; and/or
3. If there is a lapse in a Lobbyist's registration, complete the training again within 60 days of re-registration to lobby or three years from the date such Lobbyist last completed such training, whichever is later.

More information is available at the Ethics for Lobbyists Training page located from the "**Education**"

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main navigation menu on the JCOPE website.