

IMPORTANT CANDIDATE INFORMATION

To: Candidates Qualifying for Elected Office

RE: Filing Statements of Economic Interests

The Alabama Ethics Law requires candidates for elected office at every level of government to file a Statement of Economic Interests (SEI) with the Ethics Commission not more than five days after the candidate files his or her qualifying papers with the appropriate election official or in the case of an independent candidate, not more than five days after the date the person complies with the requirements of Section 17-9-3. Failure to file your SEI as required could result in your name being removed from the ballot.

Pertinent sections of the Ethics Law are as follows:

Section 36-25-14(a)(3), Code of Alabama states:

“(a) A statement of economic interests shall be completed and filed in accordance with this chapter with the commission no later than April 30 of each year covering the period of the preceding calendar year by each of the following: ... (3) All candidates...”

Section 36-25-15(a), Code of Alabama states:

“(a) Candidates at every level of government shall file a completed statement of economic interests for the previous calendar year with the State Ethics Commission not more than five days after the candidate files his or her qualifying papers with the appropriate election official or in the case of an independent candidate, not more than five days after the date the person complies with the requirements of Section 17-9-3. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to require a second filing of the person's statement of economic interests if a current statement of economic interests is on file with the commission.”

Section 36-25-15(c), Code of Alabama states:

“(c) Other provisions of the law notwithstanding, if a candidate does not submit a statement of economic interests or when applicable, an amended statement of economic interests in accordance with the requirements of this chapter, the name of the person shall not appear on the ballot and the candidate shall be deemed not qualified as a candidate in that election. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the commission may, for good cause shown, allow the candidate an additional five days to file such statement of economic interests. If a candidate is deemed not qualified, the appropriate election official shall remove the name of the candidate from the ballot.”

Section 36-25-6, Code of Alabama, Use of Contributions states:

“Contributions to an office holder, a candidate, or to a public official's inaugural or transitional fund shall not be converted to personal use.”

Please contact the Alabama Ethics Commission at 334-242-2997 if you have any additional questions.

Who must file a Statement of Economic Interests Form?

Code of Alabama Section 36-25-14 lists the following answer:

- All elected public officials at the state, county, or municipal level of government or their instrumentalities.
- Any person appointed as a public official and any person employed as a public employee at the state, county, or municipal level of government or their instrumentalities who occupies a position whose base pay is ninety-seven thousand dollars (\$97,000) or more annually. (This figure was adjusted on December 9, 2022 to reflect changes in the U.S. Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index. It is effective as of January 1, 2023 for the 2022 Statement of Economic Interests filings.)
- All candidates, provided the statement is filed on the date the candidate files his or her qualifying papers or, in the case of an independent candidate, on the date the candidate complies with the requirements of Section 17-9-3.
- Members of the Alabama Ethics Commission; appointed members of boards and commissions having statewide jurisdiction (but excluding members of solely advisory boards).
- All full-time non-merit employees, other than those employed in maintenance, clerical, secretarial, or other similar positions.
- Chief clerks and chief managers
- Chief county clerks and chief county managers
- Chief administrators
- Chief county administrators
- Any public official or public employee whose primary duty is to invest public funds.
- Chief administrative officers of any political subdivision.
- Chief and assistance county building inspectors.
- Any county or municipal administrator with power to grant or deny land development permits.
- Chief municipal clerks.
- Chiefs of police.
- Fire chiefs.
- City and county school superintendents and school board members.
- City and county school principals or administrators.
- Purchasing or procurement agents having the authority to make any purchase.
- Directors and assistant directors of state agencies.
- Chief financial and accounting directors.
- Chief grant coordinators.

- Each employee of the Legislature or of agencies, including temporary committees and commissions established by the Legislature, other than those employed in maintenance, clerical, secretarial, or similar positions.
- Each employee of the Judicial Branch of government, including active supernumerary district attorneys and judges, other than those employed in maintenance, clerical, secretarial, or other similar positions.
- Every full-time public employee serving as a supervisor.