

Agency Name:

State Ethics Commission

Agency Code:

R520

Section:

110



Fiscal Year FY 2024-2025

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS

(FORM B1)

For FY 2024-2025, 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

(FORM B2)

For FY 2024-2025, 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

(FORM C)

For FY 2024-2025, my agency is (mark "X"):	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

PROVISOS

(FORM D)

For FY 2024-2025, 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.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Meghan Walker Dayson	(803) 253-4192	mwalker@ethics.sc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Ami R. Franklin	(803) 253-4192	ami@ethics.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2024-2025 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	<u>Agency Director</u>	<u>Board or Commission Chair</u>
SIGN/DATE:	9-21-2023 <i>Meghan Walker Dayson</i>	9-21-2023 <i>Scott E. Frick</i>
TYPE/PRINT NAME:	Meghan Walker Dayson	Scott E. Frick

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

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

TITLE	Administration - Investigative Services
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AMOUNT	\$61,434
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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	Program: 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 25 FTE's (3 vacant) and 3 PTE's) that is able to serve South Carolinians because each employee has a multitude of responsibilities and are cross-trained 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

The reduction of one FTE, Investigator III position would be a cost savings of approximately \$91,000 (salary and benefits).

Reduction of a law enforcement position would also approximately reduce:

- Vehicle - \$9,500
- Weapons & Ammunition - \$1,500
- Training - \$1,500
- Uniforms & Supplies - \$2,000
- Desk, Chair, Computer, Office Phone, Cell Phone - \$4,000

The agency plan would be to repurpose the savings by paying Other Operating Costs.

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?

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FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Repeal of Regulations
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

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.
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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.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	X	Repeal or revision of regulations.
		Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.
		Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.
		Other

METHOD OF CALCULATION	N/A
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Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.

REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	N/A
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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?

REDUCTION OF REGULATION	Regulations: 52-204(C) 52-205 (A)(B) and (C) 52-601(B), (C) and (D) 52-607 52-702(A)
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Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

	<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 completed 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/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?