

## Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

*For state employees involved in proposing or developing administrative rules  
but who are not subject to the statutory Ethics Code*

# Restraints on employees' receipt of food, drink, favors, services, etc.

## STATUTORY RESTRAINTS

Consistent with the statutes administered by the Government Accountability Board, a state employee involved in proposing or developing administrative rules but who is not subject to the statutory Ethics Code may accept and retain informational materials of unexceptional value [§§ 13.625(6t) and 19.45(2), *Wisconsin Statutes*]; but otherwise should not accept:

1. **ITEMS OR SERVICES FROM LOBBYISTS.** Food, drink, transportation, lodging, employment, or thing of pecuniary value from a lobbyist<sup>1</sup>, either directly or through an agent [§ 13.625(1)-(3)] or
2. **ITEMS OR SERVICES FROM ORGANIZATIONS THAT EMPLOY LOBBYISTS.** Food, drink, transportation, lodging, employment, or thing of pecuniary value from an organization that employs a lobbyist unless also made available to the general public on like terms and conditions<sup>2</sup> [§ 13.625(2)].

An administrative rule promulgated by the Office of State Employment Relations, Chapter ER-MRS 24, establishes a code of ethics for state employees who are not subject to the Code of Ethics for State Public Officials. Please consult the rule or the Office of State Employment Relations and the agency or office to which your state position pertains for further limitations on accepting items and services from others.

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<sup>1</sup> Unless the lobbyist and recipient are married to each other, are engaged to be married, reside in the same household, or are close relatives. [§ 13.625(6)]

<sup>2</sup> *Individuals elected or appointed to local government position.* In the case of an individual *elected* to a position in a local government that employs a lobbyist, the local government may furnish the individual anything it normally furnishes to other similarly situated elected officials. [§ 13.625(6g)(a)] If an individual is *appointed* to a local government position compatible with the state position, the local government may furnish the individual a per diem or reimbursement of expenses up to the amount furnished to other similarly situated officials. [§ 13.625(6g)(b)]

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*This is a guide. For authoritative information consult Wisconsin Statutes.*