

Principals

Does your organization need to register as a lobbying principal?

Wisconsin law requires your organization to register with the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board if your organization employs an individual:

- for compensation
- to communicate with state officials
- to attempt to influence state legislation or administrative rule-making on its behalf, and
- that individual communicates with state officials on 5 or more days during either the first or last six months of the year.

See also Government Accountability Board Guideline 1511, *When must an individual obtain a license to lobby?*

How to Register

Lobbying registration is done completely online via the Government Accountability Board's Eye On Lobbying website, <http://lobbying.wi.gov>. An organization pays the \$375 registration fee and a \$125 authorization fee for each individual whom the organization will employ as a lobbyist. If the individual does not already have a Wisconsin lobbying license, s/he should complete the application for a lobbying license online. The lobbying license fee for the 2015-2016 legislative session is \$250 to lobby on behalf of one organization and \$400 to lobby on behalf of multiple organizations. If you wish, your organization may write one check for the registration, authorization, and license, payable to "Wisconsin Government Accountability Board." You may also pay online via E-Pay, and via credit card beginning in 2017.

Registrations and authorizations become effective when the Government Accountability Board receives the completed form and correct fees, and expire December 31 of even-numbered years.

The Government Accountability Board recommends that you register your organization and authorize your lobbyists before they begin their lobbying activities.

* If your organization's total expenses for lobbying during a calendar year will not exceed \$500, your organization should complete the online registration as a limited lobbying principal. The registration fee for such organizations is \$20.