

ETHICS AT A GLANCE

Outside Activities - Can you be a poll worker?



What to know if you
want to serve as a poll worker this
election season



Overview

A state officer or employee is not permitted to engage in any outside employment or professional activity that is **in substantial conflict with their job**. Whether an outside activity conflicts with your state job depends on your duties and responsibilities, the nature of the proposed outside activity, and the specific rules that apply to you and your outside activity.

The first step in finding out if you can work as a poll worker is to check with your agency's Ethics Officer.

- If you are not a designated policymaker, then only your agency's rules and procedures will apply to your outside activities.
- If you are a policymaker, then your agency's rules and procedures, as well as COELIG's regulations, will apply to your outside activities.
- Members and employees of the Legislature are subject to a different analysis and should consult with the Legislative Ethics Commission for guidance.

[More information on Outside Activities is available on COELIG's website.](#)

Questions?

Contact us by calling 1-800-87-ETHICS (3-8442) or by e-mail at GUIDANCE@ETHICS.NY.GOV.

All guidance communications with COELIG are confidential.

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