



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Honoraria

Q1: What is an honorarium?

A1: An honorarium is a payment for a service you perform that is **not** related to your official state duties. An honorarium payment can be in the form of a monetary fee, or payment or reimbursement of travel expenses including transportation, lodging, and meals related to the service performed.

Q2: What are some examples of services that can result in payment of an honorarium?

A2: Examples of services that can result in payment of an honorarium include, but are not limited to delivering a speech, writing or publishing an article, or participating in a conference, convention, or meeting.

Q3: Do I need my agency's approval to accept an honorarium?

A3: Yes, before performing the service, you must seek and receive approval in writing from your agency's Ethics Officer or their designee.

Q4: Who is exempt from needing honorarium approval?

A4: The following state officers and employees do not need approval to accept an honorarium if the service performed is within the subject matter of their academic discipline:

- (i) Faculty members, including adjunct faculty, at the State University of New York and the City University of New York; and
- (ii) State officers or employees with any of the following job titles:
 - a. Research Scientist
 - b. Cancer Research Scientist
 - c. Research Physician
 - d. Research Psychiatrist
 - e. Psychiatrist

Q5: Do I need to report honoraria payments even if approval is not required?

A5: Yes, if you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS), you must report any honoraria in response to Question 13 on your FDS, regardless of whether you were required to get approval.

Q6: Can you use your state office equipment (e.g., computer, printer) for work related to your honorarium?

A6: No, you must not use state resources for work related to your honoraria since the service is not related to your state job.

Q7: What if I am asked to give a presentation at a not-for-profit fundraiser and I am offered an honorarium for my presentation?

A7: An offer of payment to give a presentation to a nonprofit would be considered an honorarium, and you would need to get approval from your agency to accept this payment.

Q8: Can you get a single approval for multiple honoraria from the same offeror?

A8: No, you must get separate approval for each honorarium.

Additional Resources:

- Relevant Post-Employment Advisory Opinions: [96-28](#), [91-20](#), [90-09](#)
- [Public Officers Law § 73](#)
- [19 NYCRR Part 930 – Honoraria Regulations](#)
- [Find my Ethics Officer](#)