

## IMPORTANT 2018 Rule Changes:

1. **Registration/renewal period extended by 2 weeks.** The deadline is now January 15, 2018.
2. **Reporting deadlines extended for some reports**
  - A. Legislative liaisons and legislative lobbyists: July and January deadlines extended by 10 days to July 15, and January 15, respectively.
  - B. Executive lobbyists: all deadlines extended by 10 days to the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the filing month.
3. **Gifting:**
  - A. **Non-meal gifts for state officers and employees for major life events *only*.** The Commission clarified that the phrase “infrequently occurring occasions of personal significance” **does not include annual events** including, but not limited to, birthdays or anniversaries. The phrase “infrequently occurring occasions of personal significance” is intended for major life events: **marriage, birth or adoption of a child, serious illness, death of a family member, and/or retirement.** Retirement does not include the conclusion of a term for elective or appointed office (even when it is the final term of office due to term limits).
  - B. **Presence requirement.** When a gift is a meal or a ticketed event, the lobbyists must attend with the recipient of the gift.

**Remember:** lobbyist principals are prohibited from providing meals and/or gifts to state officers and employees, unless an exception is provided.

**Exceptions:** A Lobbyist Principal may provide:

    1. One plaque or other item suitable for display recognizing public service, once per year per state officer or employee.
    2. Food and beverage at certain group events: (1) one event per year to which all members of the legislature are invited; (2) one event per year of each of the officially recognized political caucuses of the House or Senate (House and Senate Republican Caucuses, House and Senate Democratic Caucuses); (3) one event per year for each of the committees and subcommittees of the legislature, provided a majority of the committee or subcommittee members attend and the event is held in the Capitol building; and (4) one event per year for an Out-of-State Event that is restricted to Oklahoma state officers or employees where at least five Oklahoma state officers or employees attend.
  - C. **Non-meal gift limit reduced.** The non-meal gift limit is **\$100 for Calendar Year 2018**. The meal gift limit remains at \$500. All meals and gifts to state officers, employees or their family members are aggregated and cannot exceed \$500 per year.
  - D. **Contemporaneous with event.** All gifts must be given contemporaneously with the event for which the gift is provided or at times when such gifts are traditionally provided, such as a baby shower or wedding shower

Access the revised [Guide for Lobbyists here](#)

Access the [Continuing Education Program schedule here](#) to sign up for a program! (Not required but highly encouraged.)

**Text Message Notices: Sign up** to receive **Text Message** notifications from the Commission at: [www.ethics.ok.gov](http://www.ethics.ok.gov). Once you enter your email address, you will have the option to switch the notification type from email to text messaging. Text messages will not replace the email notices sent directly from The Guardian System.