
District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability

Description	FY 2011 Actual	FY 2012 Approved	FY 2013 Proposed	% Change from FY 2012
Operating Budget	\$0	\$350,000	\$1,039,000	196.9
FTEs	0.0	3.0	9.0	200.0

The mission of the District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) is to administer and enforce the Code of Conduct and maintain an Ethics Board that receives, investigates, and adjudicates violations of the Code of Conduct; to monitor the District's compliance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to assist the public and promote effective use of the District's FOIA; and to resolve disputes between agencies and requesters regarding access to government records.

The District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability is an independent agency that replaces the District of Columbia Open Government Office. BEGA will implement the duties and responsibility established pursuant to D.C. Act 19-318, the "Board of Ethics and Government Accountability Establishment and Comprehensive Ethics Reform Emergency Amendment Act of 2012." The new agency also incorporates the functions, responsibilities and funding of the District of Columbia Open Government Office, which will be an independent Office within the agency, charged with ensuring that District agencies comply with the District's FOIA and Open Meetings Act.

The agency's FY 2013 proposed budget is presented in the following tables:

FY 2013 Proposed Gross Funds Operating Budget, by Revenue Type

Table AG0-1 contains the proposed FY 2013 agency budget compared to the FY 2012 approved budget.

Table AG0-1

(dollars in thousands)

Appropriated Fund	Actual FY 2010	Actual FY 2011	Approved FY 2012	Proposed FY 2013	Change from FY 2012	Percent Change*
General Fund						
Local Funds	0	0	350	979	629	179.7
Special Purpose Revenue Funds	0	0	0	60	60	N/A
Total for General Fund	0	0	350	1,039	689	196.9
Gross Funds	0	0	350	1,039	689	196.9

*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

Note: If applicable, for a breakdown of each Grant (Federal and Private), Special Purpose Revenue type and Intra-District agreement, please refer to Schedule 80 Agency Summary by Revenue Source in the FY 2013 Operating Appendices located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's website.

FY 2013 Proposed Full-Time Equivalents, by Revenue Type

Table AG0-2 contains the proposed FY 2013 FTE level compared to the FY 2012 approved FTE level by revenue type.

Table AG0-2

Appropriated Fund	Actual FY 2010	Actual FY 2011	Approved FY 2012	Proposed FY 2013	Change from FY 2012	Percent Change
General Fund						
Local Funds	0.0	0.0	3.0	9.0	6.0	200.0
Total for General Fund	0.0	0.0	3.0	9.0	6.0	200.0
Total Proposed FTEs	0.0	0.0	3.0	9.0	6.0	200.0

FY 2013 Proposed Operating Budget, by Comptroller Source Group

Table AG0-3 contains the proposed FY 2013 budget at the Comptroller Source Group (object class) level compared to the FY 2012 approved budget.

Table AG0-3
(dollars in thousands)

Comptroller Source Group	Actual FY 2010	Actual FY 2011	Approved FY 2012	Proposed FY 2013	Change from FY 2012	Percent Change*
11 - Regular Pay - Continuing Full Time	0	0	253	752	499	197.6
14 - Fringe Benefits - Current Personnel	0	0	45	148	102	224.9
Subtotal Personal Services (PS)	0	0	298	900	601	201.7
20 - Supplies and Materials	0	0	5	2	-2	-50.0
32 - Rentals - Land and Structures	0	0	0	22	22	N/A
40 - Other Services and Charges	0	0	47	112	65	138.0
70 - Equipment and Equipment Rental	0	0	0	3	3	N/A
Subtotal Nonpersonal Services (NPS)	0	0	52	139	88	168.8
Gross Funds	0	0	350	1,039	689	196.9

*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

Program Description

The District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability (BEGA) operates through the following 2 programs:

Office of Open Government – administers and enforces the Code of Conduct through the Ethics Board, monitors the District’s compliance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), assists the public and promotes effective use of the District’s FOIA, and resolves disputes between agencies and requesters regarding access to government records.

Board of Ethics – receives, investigates, assesses and adjudicates violations of the Code of Conduct; provides mandatory ethics training; issues rules and regulations governing the ethical conduct of employees and public officials; and provides for an anonymous and confidential receipt of information related to violations of the Code of Conduct or other information with regard to its administration or enforcement.

Program Structure Change

Pursuant to D.C. Act 19-318, the “Board of Ethics and Government Accountability Establishment and Comprehensive Ethics Reform Emergency Amendment Act of 2012” (the Ethics Act), the District of Columbia Office of Open Government was absorbed into the District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability in the FY 2013 proposed budget. This change expands the responsibilities of the previous agency and expands the agency program structure to include the Office of Open Government and the Board of Ethics. It is anticipated that the agency will begin its operations in FY 2012.

FY 2013 Proposed Operating Budget and FTEs, by Program and Activity

Table AG0-4 contains the proposed FY 2013 budget by program and activity compared to the FY 2012 approved budget.

Table AG0-4

(dollars in thousands)

Program/Activity	Dollars in Thousands				Full-Time Equivalents			
	Actual FY 2011	Approved FY 2012	Proposed FY 2013	Change from FY 2012	Actual FY 2011	Approved FY 2012	Proposed FY 2013	Change from FY 2012
(1000) Office of Open Government								
(1100) Office of Open Government	0	350	835	485	0.0	3.0	8.0	5.0
(1100) Office of Open Government	0	0	2	2	0.0	2.0	0.0	-2.0
Subtotal (1000) Office of Open Government	0	350	835	485	0.0	3.0	8.0	5.0
(2000) Board of Ethics								
(2010) Board of Ethics	0	0	204	204	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0
Subtotal (2000) Board of Ethics	0	0	204	204	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0
Total Proposed Operating Budget	0	350	1,039	689	0.0	3.0	9.0	6.0

(Change is calculated by whole numbers and numbers may not add up due to rounding)

Note: For more detailed information regarding the proposed funding for the activities within this agency's programs, please see Schedule 30-PBB Program Summary by Activity in the FY 2013 Operating Appendices located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's website.

FY 2013 Proposed Budget Changes

The District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability's (BEGA) proposed FY 2013 gross budget is \$1,039,000, which represents a 196.9 percent increase over its FY 2012 approved gross funds budget of \$350,000. The budget is comprised of \$979,000 in Local funds and \$60,000 in Special Purpose Revenue funds.

The Ethics Act establishes two nonlapsing funds that shall be administered by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics and Government Accountability Fund (Accountability Fund) collects fees and fines imposed by the Ethics Board for civil and criminal violations of the Code of Conduct. The Lobbyist Administration and Enforcement Fund (Lobbyist Fund) collects a registration fee from lobbyists who have dealings with the District of Columbia government.

Pursuant to legislation, the Lobbyist Fund, which was within the Office of Campaign Finance and includes its certified fund balance and budget FY 2013 anticipated revenue, will transfer in to BEGA once the agency is officially established. The Accountability Fund will be created in BEGA when the agency is established and the anticipated revenue is certified.

Current Services Funding Level

The Current Services Funding Level (CSFL) is a Local funds ONLY representation of the true cost of operating District agencies, before consideration of policy decisions. The CSFL reflects changes from the FY 2012 approved budget across multiple programs, and it estimates how much it would cost an agency to continue its current programs and operations into the following fiscal year. The initial adjustments in the budget proposal represent changes that should be compared to the FY 2013 CSFL budget and not necessarily changes made to the FY 2012 Local funds budget. The FY 2013 CSFL adjustments to the FY 2012 Local funds budget are described in table 5 of this agency's budget chapter. Please see the CSFL Development section within Volume 1: Executive Summary for more information regarding the methodology used and components that comprise the CSFL.

The BEGA's FY 2013 CSFL budget is \$355,481, which represents a \$5,481, or 1.6 percent, increase over the FY 2012 approved Local funds budget of \$350,000.

Initial Adjusted Budget

Cost Increase: The agency allocated \$1,509 in Local funds to support Contractual Services costs related to satisfying Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests.

Cost Decrease: A reduction of \$1,509 in Local funds reflects changes in starting salaries for certain agency positions and cost adjustments for Supplies and Materials.

Additionally Adjusted Budget

Technical Adjustment: Adjustments of Fringe Benefits to restore the District Government contribution for employee health insurance from 72 percent, implemented in the FY 2011 budget, to 75 percent in FY 2013, resulting in an increase of \$1,066 in Local funds.

Policy Initiatives

Create: An increase of \$450,467 and 5.0 FTEs in Local funds reflects the creation of a new structure based on the Ethics Act, which includes funding for a Director of the Office of Open Government as well as operational staffing. In addition, an increase of \$144,000 and 1.0 FTE in the Board of Ethics program to support a new Ethics Board Director position.

Cost Increase: An increase of \$22,376 in Rent costs supports the acquisition of office space for the new agency. Also, an increase of \$4,656 in Other Services and Charges supports compensation costs for members of the Board of Ethics and the Chairman of the Ethics Board. This increase complies with an Ethics Act provision, which states that the board compensation budget is to total \$51,500 per year. Members receive an amount no greater than \$12,500 and the Chairman an amount no greater than \$26,500.

Cost Decrease: A decrease of \$2,500 in Local funds reflects cost savings in Supplies and Materials.

Transfer In: An increase of \$60,000 reflects the transfer of the Lobbyist Administration and Enforcement fund from the Office of Campaign Finance to support the functions of the Board of Ethics program.

FY 2012 Approved Budget to FY 2013 Proposed Budget, by Revenue Type

Table AG0-5 itemizes the changes by revenue type between the FY 2012 approved budget and the FY 2013 proposed budget.

Table AG0-5

(dollars in thousands)

	PROGRAM	BUDGET	FTE
LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2012 Approved Budget and FTE		350	3.0
Fringe Benefit Rate Adjustment	Office of Open Government	3	0.0
Consumer Price Index	Office of Open Government	1	0.0
Personal Services Growth Factor	Office of Open Government	1	0.0
FY 2013 Current Services Funding Level Budget (CSFL)		355	3.0
Cost Increase: Compliance costs associated with FOIA requests	Office of Open Government	2	0.0
Cost Decrease: Personal services-related adjustments	Office of Open Government	-2	0.0
FY 2013 Initial Adjusted Budget		355	3.0
Technical Adjustment: Health insurance contribution	Multiple Programs	1	0.0
FY 2013 Additionally Adjusted Budget		357	3.0
FY 2013 Policy Initiatives			
Create: Salary and fringe costs of new agency	Office of Open Government	450	5.0
Create: Ethics Board Director	Board of Ethics	144	1.0
Cost Increase: Rent / Lease costs	Office of Open Government	22	0.0
Cost Increase: Stipend costs for Ethics Board members	Office of Open Government	5	0.0
Cost Increase: Equipment costs for new staff	Office of Open Government	3	0.0
Cost Decrease: Supply cost savings	Office of Open Government	-2	0.0
LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2013 Proposed Budget and FTE		979	9.0
SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2012 Approved Budget and FTE		0	0.0
FY 2013 Policy Initiative			
Transfer In: Lobbyist fund	Board of Ethics	60	0.0
SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE FUNDS: FY 2013 Proposed Budget and FTE		60	0.0
Gross for AG0 - District of Columbia Board of Ethics and Government Accountability		1,039	9.0

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