



**Ethics Commission
Department No. 195
2025 Senate Bill No. 2004**

**EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM**

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Executive budget recommendation	3.00	\$1,500,699	\$0	\$1,500,699
Base level	3.00	1,041,374	0	1,041,374
Increase (decrease)	0.00	\$459,325	\$0	\$459,325
Percentage increase (decrease)	0.0%	44.1%	N/A	44.1%

NOTE:

More detailed information on the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

A copy of the draft appropriations bill reflecting the executive budget recommendation is attached as Appendix B.

Selected Highlights

- Salary increases of up to 4 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026
- Health insurance increase of \$250 per month (15.23 percent), from \$1,643 to \$1,893, per employee
- Adds funding to replace 2023-25 biennium new and vacant FTE pool amounts
- Increases funding from the general fund for ongoing information technology (IT) costs (\$8,713) and IT software and subscriptions (\$19,151)
- Increases general fund support for commissioner and temporary salary funding by \$43,403
- Adds ongoing (\$60,000) and one-time (\$135,000) funding from the general fund for a case management system
- Increases funding from the general fund for professional fees by \$50,000 to provide a total of \$120,000

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency has 2 fees. The agency did not recommend any changes to the fees.

Major Related Legislation

House Bill No. 1046 - Ethics Commission advisory opinions - Allows a public official, candidate, or lobbyist to request an advisory opinion related to hypothetical facts or prospective conduct of the individual.

NOTE:

Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.



Ethics Commission - Budget No. 195
Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2004

	Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	3.00	\$1,041,374	\$0	\$1,041,374
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Salary increase		\$43,027		\$43,027
Health insurance increase		18,016		18,016
Funding to replace 2023-25 new FTE pool		60,798		60,798
Funding to replace 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		11,109		11,109
Commissioner and temporary salary funding		43,403		43,403
IT rate increases		8,713		8,713
IT software and subscriptions		19,151		19,151
Case management system		60,000		60,000
Professional fees		50,000		50,000
Travel costs		7,760		7,760
Total ongoing funding changes	0.00	\$321,977	\$0	\$321,977
One-Time Funding Items				
Case management system one-time costs		\$135,000		\$135,000
Office furniture		2,348		2,348
Total one-time funding changes	0.00	\$137,348	\$0	\$137,348
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	0.00	\$459,325	\$0	\$459,325
2025-27 Total Funding	3.00	\$1,500,699	\$0	\$1,500,699

Federal funds included in other funds

\$0

Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level

0.0%

30.9%

N/A

30.9%

Total changes - Percentage of base level

0.0%

44.1%

N/A

44.1%

Other Sections in Ethics Commission - Budget No. 195

Section Description	Executive Budget
FTE positions	Section 3 would allow the Ethics Commission to increase or decrease the number of authorized FTE positions subject to the availability of funds.

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

SENATE BILL NO. 2004
(Governor's Recommendation)

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

(At the request of the Governor)

A bill for an act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the ethics commission and to provide an exemption.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the ethics commission for the purpose of defraying the expenses of that agency, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as follows:

	<u>Base Level</u>	<u>Adjustments or Enhancements</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
Ethics commission	\$ 1,041,374	\$ 459,325	\$1,500,699
Total general fund	\$ 1,041,374	\$ 459,325	\$1,500,699
Full-time equivalent positions	3.00	0.00	3.00

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty-eighth legislative assembly for the 2023-25 biennium and the 2025-27 biennium one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

<u>One-Time Funding Description</u>	<u>2023-25</u>	<u>2025-27</u>
Attorney fees	\$72,000	\$0
Office relocation	25,000	0
New FTE position one-time costs	1,825	0
Case management system	0	135,000
Office furniture	0	2,348
Total general fund	\$98,825	\$137,348

SECTION 3. EXEMPTION - FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION ADJUSTMENTS. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the ethics commission may increase or decrease authorized full-time equivalent positions as needed, subject to availability of funds, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The ethics commission shall report to the office of management and budget and legislative council any adjustments made pursuant to this section.