

Charter Schools



Statutes:

Charter schools, defined, St. Louis City and Kansas City school districts—sponsors—use of public school buildings—organization of charter schools—affiliations with college or university—criminal background check required.

160.400. 1. A charter school is an independent public school.

...15. No member of the governing board of a charter school shall hold any office or employment from the board or the charter school while serving as a member, nor shall the member have any substantial interest, as defined in section 105.450, in any entity employed by or contracting with the board. No board member shall be an employee of a company that provides substantial services to the charter school. All members of the governing board of the charter school shall be considered decision-making public servants as defined in section 105.450 for the purposes of the financial disclosure requirements contained in sections 105.483, 105.485, 105.487, and 105.489.

Definitions:

105.450. As used in sections 105.450 to 105.496 and sections 105.955 to 105.963, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following terms mean:

...(6) "Decision-making public servant", an official, appointee or employee of the offices or entities delineated in paragraphs (a) through (h) of this subdivision who exercises supervisory authority over the negotiation of contracts, or has the legal authority to adopt or vote on the adoption of rules and regulations with the force of law or exercises primary supervisory responsibility over purchasing decisions. ...be responsible for designating a:

Financial interest statements—who shall file, exception.

105.483. Each of the following persons shall be required to file a financial interest statement:

...(12) Any person who is designated as a decision-making public servant by any of the officials or entities listed in subdivision (6) of section 105.450.

Designated decision-making public servant, notification.

105.958. 1. The Missouri Ethics Commission shall notify each person whose name has been submitted to the commission by the designating agency as a designated decision-making public servant and who has been informed by the agency of such designation. The commission shall send written notification by postcard at least ninety days before the required filing date of a financial interest statement pursuant to subdivision (12) of section 105.483.

2. If the designating agency fails to notify a person that their name has been submitted to the commission by the designating agency as a designated decision-making public servant, then the designating agency shall be responsible for any late filing fees assessed by the commission.

Key Points:**105.483 – 105.492 RSMo – Personal Financial Disclosure Statement Requirements**

- Required to file Personal Financial Disclosure Statement (long form) w/MEC
- Covers information for preceding year
- Must include financial information for self, spouse and any dependent children
- Reports sources of income (no dollar amounts) and holdings
- Used to determine if any conflict exists between board member and the school
- Can be filed on paper and mailed to our office (no e-mails or faxes) or filed electronically in MEC e-file system
- Due May 1; \$10 a day late fee, after 30 days late fee jumps to \$100 per day with cap of \$6,000
- New appointees must file within 30 days of appointment

Steps:

This handout is intended only as a guide to aid understanding of charter schools and their requirements. For the law's complete requirements, consult the law itself, codified as cited in the Revised Statutes of Missouri.

1. MEC requests list of required filers from school each year
2. Schools log-in to MEC system to submit filer's information
3. Schools notify filers of their filing requirement
4. MEC mails notice to each filer with an ID and password to e-file
5. Schools track filings in MEC system

MEC Website: www.mec.mo.gov

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