



Lobbyist types

Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

How do you decide what type of lobbyist you are for reporting purposes?

Lobbyists must report to the Board about the money that they spend on lobbying. A lobbyist must either file a separate report for each principal that employs the lobbyist or delegate the reporting responsibility for a principal to another lobbyist who represents the same principal. When registering as a lobbyist for a principal, one of the following three options must be selected for reporting lobbying expenses:

- Self-reporting lobbyist - A self-reporting lobbyist is a lobbyist who reports to the Board only his or her own lobbying disbursements for a principal.
- Authorizing lobbyist - An authorizing lobbyist is a lobbyist who gives permission to another lobbyist who works for the same principal to report the authorizing lobbyist's expenses for that common principal.
- Reporting lobbyist - A reporting lobbyist is a lobbyist who reports his or her own lobbying disbursements for a principal and who also has been given permission to report lobbying expenses for one or more other lobbyists who work for the same principal.

A principal that employs multiple lobbyists can dramatically reduce the paperwork required for reporting by using a reporting lobbyist. Every authorizing lobbyist, however, still must keep complete records of his or her lobbying disbursements and must provide this information to the reporting lobbyist at least five days before the reporting deadline.

What is a designated lobbyist?

Each principal that hires a lobbyist must choose one, and only one, lobbyist to report the disbursements that the principal itself spends on lobbying. This lobbyist is called the designated lobbyist. The designated lobbyist also reports the names of the principal's officers and directors to the Board.