



AB 1234 Self-Assessment Test Part II: Governmental Transparency and Fair Processes (2012)

Instructions

Earn 1 hour of AB 1234 credit by reading the AB 1234 training materials. Then take the attached self-assessment, choosing the *best* answer for each question.

Send the completed Part II test, completed form and payment (\$25) to:

Institute for Local Government
1400 K Street, Suite 205
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: AB 1234 Ethics Test

You will receive the correct answers and an AB 1234 certificate within four weeks.

Certification. The Institute for Local Government certifies that this activity conforms to the standards for approved education activities prescribed by the Fair Political Practices Commission and Attorney General governing AB 1234 ethics education. This activity is eligible for **1 hour** of credit for AB 1234 ethics education for ethics principles and laws related to financial interests and perks.

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PAYMENT INFORMATION

The Institute only accepts checks, Visa or MasterCard as payment.

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1. In politics and government, sometimes the ends justify the means in terms of using means that fall short of either legal or ethical standards.
 True False
2. Financial interest disclosure forms are filed upon taking office, annually while in office and then when one leaves office.
 True False
3. Getting the job done for a public agency is more important than complying with governmental transparency laws.
 True False
4. Disclosure requirements apply to campaign fundraising activities, but not other kinds of fundraising activities.
 True False
5. The act of forwarding an email by an elected official can be a violation of open meeting laws.
 True False
6. Under some circumstances, if a decision-maker pre-judges a matter, the decision-maker could be disqualified from participating in the decision.
 True False
7. An effective and lawful strategy for decision-makers at public hearings is to communicate one's disdain for a speaker's position by simply not paying attention to what the speaker is saying.
 True False
8. Officeholders may not hold offices that would subject them to conflicting loyalties.
 True False

9. Awarding public agency contracts based on personal connections and loyalties is considered an accepted practice for public agencies.
- True False
10. An official is wise to be especially sensitive to public perceptions when issues (employment or otherwise) arise at one's agency relating to family members.
- True False
11. The objective of competitive bidding processes for public contracts is to promote equal opportunities to compete for government contracts and to try to assure the public that the work is performed at a competitive price.
- True False
12. In resolving an ethical dilemma, one can take the personal costs of doing "the right thing" into account and still claim to have made an ethical decision.
- True False
13. Governmental transparency laws are designed to promote public trust because the public tends to trust processes that it can observe and be a part of.
- True False
14. A public agency must allow the opportunity for public comment before an item is taken up by the decision-making body.
- True False
15. A safe assumption is virtually all documents a public agency has, including electronic documents, are public records subject to disclosure.
- True False