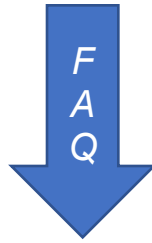


CITY – COUNTY FAQ



Electronic Filing Specific FAQs

1. **Q** – If filers use an alternative way for signing Form 700 with a secured electronic signature. Will the FPPC accept it?

A – Yes. If your agency permits digital signatures, verify the signature and email it to the Fair Political Practices Commission at Form700@fppc.ca.gov.

2. **Q** – Do all my filers use FPPC’s electronic filing system?

A – No. The system will only be used by those filers whose statements are forwarded to FPPC under the conflict-of-interest code. Statements from all your other filers will be processed at your agency as they have been in previous years.

3. **Q** – What happens once my filer’s information has been updated?

A – Once your filer’s information is updated, they will receive an e-mail that provides a login ID and password that they use to file their Form 700. The e-mail also provides access to a video that explains how to file statements online.

If you have added new filers since your first update, or if you have filers who left since then, the system will generate e-mails to those filers notifying them to complete their assuming or leaving office statement.

4. **Q** – What about filing expanded statements when a filer holds more than one position?

A – New Regulation 18723.1(a) defines “Expanded Statement of Economic Interests (ESEI)” “primary position,” and “additional position” for purposes of the regulation. Subdivision (c) would authorize, but not require, an official with multiple positions subject to filing obligations to file an ESEI for each position rather than a separate and distinct SEI for each position. That provision would also specify processes for filing such a statement: the original ESEI is filed for the official’s primary position, and a copy of that ESEI is filed for each additional position, as specified. Please also see the Expanded SEI Factsheet.

Data Exchange Specific FAQs

5. Q – Can I upload a paper-filed statement?

A – No. Data exchange is only for statements that have been filed electronically through an approved electronic system.

6. Q – Why did the statement not get pushed through the data exchange?

A – Name and position must match in both systems. (Yours and the FPPC system) for data exchange to be successful. Including the type of statement and dates.

General FAQs

7. Q – What is the process once the FPPC receives a paper statement?

A – We log the statement into our system (that is why it is essential to add new filers and leaving dates), then we can upload the statement. If we add filers or add leaving dates, it will send a notice to the filer, and then once we have uploaded the statement, the filers will receive another email congratulating them on filing.

8. Q – Do I need to date stamp Form 700 once received?

A – This is the date we use to show the statement was filed in a timely manner. If the statement is not date-stamped, it may result in a late fine.

9. Q - A filer receives a letter from the FPPC. Do they need to do anything?

A – Yes. They need to read the letter to see what it is about. If they have any questions, they need to reach out to the signer of the letter.

10. Q – I have a filer on military leave. Do I send Form 700 overseas for the filer to complete?

A – No. Simply note this in your log (or, in the case of an individual whose statement is forwarded to FPPC, notify us) and have the individual file their annual statement upon return.

11. Q – We have a new planning commissioner. Is the assuming office date the date the city council appointed them or the date they attended her first meeting?

A – The assuming office date is the date the planning commissioner is sworn in or begins to perform the duties, whichever is earlier.

12. Q – Is an amendment request necessary if the “total number of pages” line on the Cover Page is left blank?

A – No. Listing the total number of pages included with the Form 700 filing is not required by law; it is included simply as a tool to ensure that all pages are received.

13. Q – If a filer leaves an office specified in Gov. Code Section 87200 and assumes another office or position specified in Section 87200 that has the same jurisdiction (for example, a city planning commissioner elected as mayor), they must file a leaving office and an assuming office Form 700?

A – No. If there was not a break in service of 45 days or more, the person will continue to file annual statements.

14. Q – Does a board member who has been reappointed or an employee who moved from one designated position to another designated position within our agency must file a leaving office and an assuming office Form 700?

A – No. If there was not a break in service of 30 days or more, the person will continue to file annual statements.

15. Q – A newly appointed planning commissioner assumed office on October 15, 2023, and filed an assuming office statement. Must he file an annual statement on April 2, 2024?

A – No. Any filer who assumed office between October 1 and December 31, 2023, and filed an assuming office statement does not need to file an annual statement until April 1, 2025. The period covered on the newly appointed planning commissioner’s statement will be October 16, 2023, through December 31, 2024.

16. Q – What are my responsibilities for an unsigned statement that must be forwarded to the FPPC?

A – Unless you can quickly obtain the signature before it is date-stamped, please forward the unsigned statement to the FPPC for follow-up.

Important FAQs

17. Q – Is a candidate statement required if a candidate files an assuming office or annual statement for the same jurisdiction within 60 days before filing a declaration of candidacy or other nomination documents?

A – No. As long as the assuming or annual was filed on time and within the 60 days before filing a declaration of candidacy or other nomination documents.

18. Q - Is a filer required to file an annual statement if they've already filed a Candidate statement?

A – Yes. An annual statement is required.

19. Q – Can I add a candidate's information to the FPPC electronic system?

A – No. You need to send Form700@fppc.ca.gov an email with the candidate's name, the position they're running for, the declaration of candidacy date, and the election date.

City Specific FAQs

20. Q – A city planning commissioner was elected to the city council in the November election. Must they file assuming and leaving office statements?

A – No. The official will simply continue to file annual statements.

21. Q – The assistant city manager has been appointed acting city manager. Must they file assuming and leaving office statements?

A – Yes. Because they are assuming a position covered by Section 87200 that files with the FPPC, they must file an assuming office statement, which is forwarded to the FPPC.

County Specific FAQs

22. Q – The assistant county counsel has been appointed as acting county counsel. Must they file an assuming office statement?

A – Yes. Because they are assuming a position covered by Section 87200 that files with the FPPC, they must file an assuming office statement, which is forwarded to the FPPC.

23. Q – A county planning commissioner was elected to the Board of Supervisors in the November election. Must they file assuming and leaving office statements?

A – No. The official will simply continue to file annual statements.