



Ohio Revised Code

Section 121.40 Ohio commission on service and volunteerism.

Effective: September 29, 2015

Legislation: House Bill 64 - 131st General Assembly

(A) There is hereby created the Ohio commission on service and volunteerism consisting of twenty-one voting members including the superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee, the chancellor of higher education or the chancellor's designee, the director of youth services or the director's designee, the director of aging or the director's designee, the chairperson of the committee of the house of representatives dealing with education or the chairperson's designee, the chairperson of the committee of the senate dealing with education or the chairperson's designee, and fifteen members who shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and who shall serve terms of office of three years. The appointees shall include educators, including teachers and administrators; representatives of youth organizations; students and parents; representatives of organizations engaged in volunteer program development and management throughout the state, including youth and conservation programs; and representatives of business, government, nonprofit organizations, social service agencies, veterans organizations, religious organizations, or philanthropies that support or encourage volunteerism within the state. The director of the governor's office of faith-based and community initiatives shall serve as a nonvoting ex officio member of the commission. Members of the commission shall receive no compensation, but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

(B) The commission shall appoint an executive director for the commission, who shall be in the unclassified civil service. The governor shall be informed of the appointment of an executive director before such an appointment is made. The executive director shall supervise the commission's activities and report to the commission on the progress of those activities. The executive director shall do all things necessary for the efficient and effective implementation of the duties of the commission.

The responsibilities assigned to the executive director do not relieve the members of the commission from final responsibility for the proper performance of the requirements of this section.

(C) The commission or its designee shall do all of the following:



(1) Employ, promote, supervise, and remove all employees as needed in connection with the performance of its duties under this section and may assign duties to those employees as necessary to achieve the most efficient performance of its functions, and to that end may establish, change, or abolish positions, and assign and reassign duties and responsibilities of any employee of the commission. Personnel employed by the commission who are subject to Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code shall retain all of their rights and benefits conferred pursuant to that chapter. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as eliminating or interfering with Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code or the rights and benefits conferred under that chapter to public employees or to any bargaining unit.

(2) Maintain its office in Columbus, and may hold sessions at any place within the state;

(3) Acquire facilities, equipment, and supplies necessary to house the commission, its employees, and files and records under its control, and to discharge any duty imposed upon it by law. The expense of these acquisitions shall be audited and paid for in the same manner as other state expenses. For that purpose, the commission shall prepare and submit to the office of budget and management a budget for each biennium according to sections 101.532 and 107.03 of the Revised Code. The budget submitted shall cover the costs of the commission and its staff in the discharge of any duty imposed upon the commission by law. The commission shall not delegate any authority to obligate funds.

(4) Pay its own payroll and other operating expenses from line items designated by the general assembly;

(5) Retain its fiduciary responsibility as appointing authority. Any transaction instructions shall be certified by the appointing authority or its designee.

(6) Establish the overall policy and management of the commission in accordance with this chapter;

(7) Assist in coordinating and preparing the state application for funds under sections 101 to 184 of the "National and Community Service Act of 1990," 104 Stat. 3127 (1990), 42 U.S.C.A. 12411 to 12544, as amended, assist in administering and overseeing the "National and Community Service



Trust Act of 1993," P.L. 103-82, 107 Stat. 785, and the americorps program in this state, and assist in developing objectives for a comprehensive strategy to encourage and expand community service programs throughout the state;

(8) Assist the state board of education, school districts, the chancellor of higher education, and institutions of higher education in coordinating community service education programs through cooperative efforts between institutions and organizations in the public and private sectors;

(9) Assist the departments of natural resources, youth services, aging, and job and family services in coordinating community service programs through cooperative efforts between institutions and organizations in the public and private sectors;

(10) Suggest individuals and organizations that are available to assist school districts, institutions of higher education, and the departments of natural resources, youth services, aging, and job and family services in the establishment of community service programs and assist in investigating sources of funding for implementing these programs;

(11) Assist in evaluating the state's efforts in providing community service programs using standards and methods that are consistent with any statewide objectives for these programs and provide information to the state board of education, school districts, the chancellor of higher education, institutions of higher education, and the departments of natural resources, youth services, aging, and job and family services to guide them in making decisions about these programs;

(12) Assist the state board of education in complying with section 3301.70 of the Revised Code and the chancellor of higher education in complying with division (B)(2) of section 3333.043 of the Revised Code.

(D) The commission shall in writing enter into an agreement with another state agency to serve as the commission's fiscal agent. Before entering into such an agreement, the commission shall inform the governor of the terms of the agreement and of the state agency designated to serve as the commission's fiscal agent. The fiscal agent shall be responsible for all the commission's fiscal matters and financial transactions, as specified in the agreement. Services to be provided by the fiscal agent include, but are not limited to, the following:



(1) Preparing and processing payroll and other personnel documents that the commission executes as the appointing authority;

(2) Maintaining ledgers of accounts and reports of account balances, and monitoring budgets and allotment plans in consultation with the commission; and

(3) Performing other routine support services that the fiscal agent considers appropriate to achieve efficiency.

(E)(1) The commission, in conjunction and consultation with the fiscal agent, has the following authority and responsibility relative to fiscal matters:

(a) Sole authority to draw funds for any and all federal programs in which the commission is authorized to participate;

(b) Sole authority to expend funds from their accounts for programs and any other necessary expenses the commission may incur and its subgrantees may incur; and

(c) Responsibility to cooperate with and inform the fiscal agent fully of all financial transactions.

(2) The commission shall follow all state procurement, fiscal, human resources, statutory, and administrative rule requirements.

(3) The fiscal agent shall determine fees to be charged to the commission, which shall be in proportion to the services performed for the commission.

(4) The commission shall pay fees owed to the fiscal agent from a general revenue fund of the commission or from any other fund from which the operating expenses of the commission are paid. Any amounts set aside for a fiscal year for the payment of these fees shall be used only for the services performed for the commission by the fiscal agent in that fiscal year.

(F) The commission may accept and administer grants from any source, public or private, to carry



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out any of the commission's functions this section establishes.