**Local & Education Lobbyists – Inviting Public Officials to Your Activity**

(Updated May 14, 2019)

**Disclaimer:** This resource is not a substitute for Utah Code, and it is not intended to be a comprehensive statement of law. This is used to give some examples but does not cover every scenario. For further legal information, please consult Utah Code (36-11a), other appropriate legal resources, or contact the Utah Lieutenant Governor’s Office.

lobbyists@utah.gov (email) or 801-538-1041 (phone)

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### Who is a local lobbyist?

(Click here for FAQs.)

### Event

- **Meeting or Tour**
  - Is the activity a “meeting” or “tour” as defined in Utah Code, or is the activity an “event” as defined in Utah Code?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is the primary purpose of the event to solicit campaign/political purpose contributions?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the event sponsored by a governmental entity, a public school, a charter school, or an organization that represents only local governmental entities, public schools, or charter schools? (Including the groups listed below.)</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the event widely attended and related to a governmental duty of the public official?</td>
<td>Allowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are food/beverages the main and only expenses related to this activity?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do the only other expenses fall into one of these categories?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lodging</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission to or attendance at a “tour” or “meeting”</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The expenditure is likely prohibited.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please contact the Lt. Governor's Office: <a href="mailto:lobbyists@utah.gov">lobbyists@utah.gov</a> 801-538-1041</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Defined Terms for Local Government and Board of Education Lobbyists (Utah Code Annotated 36-11a-102):**

- “Meeting” means a gathering of people to discuss an issue, receive instruction, or make a decision, including a conference, seminar, or summit.
- “Tour” means the visit of a location by a local official or education official, for a purpose relating to the duties of the local official or education official, and not primarily for entertainment, including:
  - (a) viewing a facility;
  - (b) viewing the sight of a natural disaster; or
  - (c) assessing a circumstance in relation to which a local official or education official may need to take action within the scope of the local official’s or education official’s duties.
- “Event” means entertainment, a performance, a contest, or a recreational activity that an individual participates in or is a spectator at, including a sporting event, an artistic event, a play, a movie, dancing, or singing.
- “Food reimbursement rate” means the total amount set by the director of the Division of Finance, by rule, under Section 63A-3-107, for in-state meal reimbursement, for an employee of the executive branch, for an entire day (§43 as of May 2019).
- “Same local government type” means:
  - for a county government, another county government;
  - for a municipal government, another municipal government;
  - for a school district, another school district; or
  - for a local district, another local district or a local service district; or
  - for a special service district, another special service district or a local district.
- “Expenditure” means entertainment, a performance, a contest, or a recreational activity that an individual participates in or is a spectator at, including a sporting event, an artistic event, a play, a movie, dancing, or singing.

When making expenditures, please keep the following in mind per Utah Code 36-11a-101(8)(b)(v)(A)(i): **Expenditure** does not mean admission to, attendance at, or travel to or from an event, a tour, or a meeting for a local official or official sponsored that is by a governmental entity, a public school, a charter school, or an organization that represents only local governmental entities, public schools, or charter schools, including the:

- Utah Association of Counties
- Utah League of Cities and Towns
- Utah Association of Special Districts
- Utah Association of Public Charter Schools
- Utah School Boards Association
- Utah School Superintendents Association

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*Allowed and no reporting required if expenditures are admission to, attendance at, or travel to or from an event for a local official or education official.*

*Allowed and reporting required if expenditures exceed $10. (Admission to an “event” greater than $10 is prohibited.)*