

## Judicial Conduct, Commission on

### Mission

The State Constitution established the Commission on Judicial Conduct to evaluate and investigate complaints of misconduct against State judges and local justices. The Commission has disciplinary powers and may render determinations to admonish, censure or remove judges and justices from office for misconduct, or to retire judges for disability, subject to review by the Court of Appeals pursuant to Article 6, Section 22, of the Constitution.

### Organization and Staffing

There are 11 members of the Commission, who serve part-time and without compensation. Each serves a renewable four-year term and is appointed by the Governor, the Chief Judge and the Legislature.

The Commission elects a Chair and a Vice Chair from among its members for renewable two-year terms. The Commission appoints an Administrator, who in turn appoints and directs Agency staff. The Commission also designates a Clerk to assist the Commission in its consideration of formal disciplinary charges, adjudication of such charges and preparation of determinations and related matters.

The Commission’s principal office is in New York City with satellite offices in Albany and Rochester. Each office is responsible for investigating complaints that concern judges in their respective regions of the state.

### Budget Highlights

The FY 2025 Executive Budget recommends a \$8.3 million All Funds appropriation with a total workforce of 52 FTEs. The proposed budget is a \$184,000 increase from the previous fiscal year attributed to general salary increases.

### Program Highlights

The Commission's core constitutional mission is to enforce ethics standards for approximately 3,400 judges and justices of the New York State Unified Court System, and to impose discipline on those judges or justices who materially violate those standards. The Commission does so by evaluating and taking appropriate action on the roughly 2,400 complaints it receives each year. All agency staff – lawyers, investigators and administrative personnel – are deployed to fulfill the Agency’s core mission: examine, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate complaints that judges have engaged in misconduct. Ancillary activities, such as participating in judicial or legal education and training seminars, are also in furtherance of the agency’s efforts to enforce judicial ethics.

### ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available FY 2024	Appropriations Recommended FY 2025	Change From FY 2024	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2025
State Operations	8,128,000	8,312,000	184,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,128,000</b>	<b>8,312,000</b>	<b>184,000</b>	<b>0</b>

### ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	FY 2024 Estimated FTEs 03/31/24	FY 2025 Estimated FTEs 03/31/25	FTE Change
Judicial Conduct			
General Fund	52	52	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE  
APPROPRIATIONS  
(dollars)**

Fund Type	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
General Fund	8,128,000	8,312,000	184,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,128,000</b>	<b>8,312,000</b>	<b>184,000</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM  
APPROPRIATIONS  
(dollars)**

Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Judicial Conduct			
General Fund	8,128,000	8,312,000	184,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,128,000</b>	<b>8,312,000</b>	<b>184,000</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	6,316,000	184,000	6,316,000	184,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,316,000</b>	<b>184,000</b>	<b>6,316,000</b>	<b>184,000</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED  
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	1,996,000	0	40,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,996,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>0</b>

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	60,000	0	1,816,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,816,000</b>	<b>0</b>

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	80,000	0

NYS DOB | FY2025 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations

<b>Total</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>0</b>
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Note: Most recent estimates as of 01/16/2024