

## State Mandated Ethics Training

Government Code section 53234 and follow (AB1234) requires local agency officials who are eligible to receive compensation or reimbursement for expenses to take two hours of ethics training every two years.

Local agency officials who commence service before January 1, 2006 are required to take the training within one year. Thereafter, the officials must take two hours of ethics training every two years.

“Local agency official” includes, (a) the local government’s elected officials and (b) members of any legislative body of the local agency, who are eligible to receive compensation and/or reimbursement for expenses for service on the particular local legislative body. “Legislative body” means any decision making or advisory committee, commission, board, or other body of the local agency (i.e., the County) that is subject to the provisions of the Brown Act, Government Code, § 53234 (a), (b) and (c).

The law allows local agency officials to satisfy the ethics training requirement through one of the following three options:

1. In person training courses;
2. On-line training ; or
3. Self- study training (reading materials and taking a test)

On-line and self-study options, as well as other information about the required ethics training, are available at the Institute for Local Government’s website, <http://www.ca-ilg.org/ab1234compliance>. There is a fee associated with some of these training options. After the training is completed, a certification should be provided. The certification should be kept for the individual’s records and a copy must be sent to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.