



CODE OF ETHICS POLICY

Policy Number	Responsible Department	Effective Date	Approval
BOD 2.01	Board of Directors	January 22, 2026	 Board of Directors

I. PURPOSE:

The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority is a quasi-public corporation. The purpose of this Code of Ethics Policy is to ensure compliance with R.I. Gen. Laws §42-155 – Quasi Public Corporations Accountability and Transparency Act.

II. POLICY:

The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority formally accepts and incorporates RI. Gen Law §36-14 as its governing Code of Ethics. It is the policy of RIPTA that all board members and employees must adhere to the highest standards of ethical conduct, respect the public trust and the rights of all persons, be open, accountable, responsive, avoid the appearance of impropriety, and not use their position for private gain or advantage.

III. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES:

No board member or employee of RIPTA shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business, employment, transaction, or professional activity, or incur any obligation of any nature, which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties or employment in the public interest and of his or her responsibilities as prescribed in the laws of Rhode Island.

No board member or employee of RIPTA shall accept other employment which will either impair his or her independence of judgment as to his or her official duties or employment or require him or her, or induce him or her, to disclose confidential information acquired by him or her in the course of and by reason of his or her official duties.

No board member or employee of RIPTA shall willfully and knowingly disclose, for pecuniary gain, to any other person, confidential information acquired by him or her in the course of and by reason of his or her official duties or employment or use any information for the purpose of pecuniary gain.

No board member or employee of RIPTA shall use in any way his or her public office or confidential information received through his or her holding any public office to obtain financial gain, other than that provided by law, for him or herself or any person within his or her family, any business associate, or any business by which the person is employed or which the person represents.

No board member or employee of RIPTA, or spouse (if not estranged), dependent child, or business associate of the person, or any business by which the person is employed or which the person represents, shall solicit or accept any gift, loan, political contribution, reward, or promise of future employment based on any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the person would be influenced thereby.

No board member or employee of RIPTA, or any person within his or her family or business associate, or any business entity in which the board member or employee or any person within board member or employee's family or business associate of any board member or family has a ten percent (10%) or greater equity interest or five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or greater cash value interest, shall enter into any contract with RIPTA unless the contract has been awarded through an open and public process, including prior public notice and subsequent public disclosure of all proposals considered and contracts awarded; provided, however, that contracts for professional services which have been customarily awarded without competitive bidding shall not be subject to competitive bidding if awarded through a process of public notice and disclosure of financial details.

No board member or employee of RIPTA shall give or offer to any person covered by this code of ethics, or to any candidate for public office, or to any person within his or her family or business associate of any person, or to any business by which the person is employed or which the person represents, any gift, loan, political contribution, reward, or promise of future employment based on any understanding or expectation that the vote, official action, or judgment of the person would be influenced thereby.

No board member or employee of RIPTA shall use for any commercial purpose information copied from any statements or from lists compiled from the statements.

No board member or employee of RIPTA shall, either directly or indirectly, through any government agency, or through a business associate, or through any other person, threaten or intimidate any complainant or witness or any family member of any complainant or witness in any proceeding before the state ethics commission.

IV. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Any board member or employee of RIPTA who, in the discharge of his or her official duties, is or may be required to take an action, make a decision, or refrain therefrom that will or can reasonably be expected to directly result in an economic benefit to the person, or spouse (if not estranged), or any dependent child of the person, or business associate or any business by which the person is employed or which the person represents, shall, before taking any such action or refraining therefrom must disclose such conflict. See RIPTA's Conflict of Interest Policy.