

ADVISORY OPINION 21-06

This Advisory Opinion 21-06 is in response to an Application filed by a [REDACTED] seeking an opinion regarding employment with an employer actively doing business with Baltimore County Public Schools (“BCPS”).

Policy 8363 provides, in relevant part, that [REDACTED] “shall not participate on behalf of the Board or school system in any matter which would, to their knowledge, have a direct financial impact ...” Section II(A)(2)(d) states:

A business entity that is a party to an existing contract with the school official or which, to the knowledge of the official, a qualifying relative of the official, if the contract reasonably could be expected to result in a conflict between the private interests of the official and the school system or Board duties of the official.

Because BCPS conducts business with the employer, employment with the [REDACTED], creates a conflict of interest. Policy 8363, III(B)(3) permits the employment provided by Ethics Opinion if, *inter alia*, the financial interest is disclosed.

Provided the [REDACTED] discloses the employment, said employment is permitted.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, the Panel has concluded that [REDACTED] may accept the employment provided they disclose it.

NOTE: We *strongly* advise the Petitioner to consider not voting on matters related to the [REDACTED]

This opinion has been adopted by the Ethics Review Panel members on June 15, 2021.

Ralph Sapia, Esq.
Chair

Tim Topoleski, Ph.D.
Vice Chair

Cynthia Boyd, M.D., M.P.H.
Panel Member

Owen Jarvis, Esq.
Panel Member

Thomas Keech, Esq.
Panel Member