

Division of Local Government Services Frequently Asked Questions



LOCAL FINANCE BOARD

Will the Local Finance Board (Board) application due date be extended?

Applications for the April 8,2020 meeting were due March 18, 2020. However, you may email the application to Local Finance Board staff in lieu of submitting paper copies this month. The submission cut-off will be posted when a meeting date is determined.

Will the Local Finance Board meet on its scheduled date of Wednesday, April 8, 2020?

No, the Local Finance Board will not hold a meeting on April 8, 2020. Staff is analyzing the applications submitted and the Board will schedule a meeting later this month if necessary. Information about the meeting, including any applicable web or telephonic access information will be distributed when the meeting date is announced. You may check the Board website https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/programs/lfb.html for additional alerts and developing information about the April and future meetings.

Should you have additional questions regarding the Local Finance Board, please send an email to Patricia.McNamara@dca.nj.gov.

Will the current March 27, 2020 deadline to update Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS) Rosters for the 2020 filing year be changed?

No, the due date for updating the 2020 Financial Disclosure Statement roster will remain March 27, 2020. However, please be reminded that the rosters are available for updates throughout the entire year and you may continue to make edits after the March 27, 2020 due date. The 2020 roster will not be locked until the new 2021 roster is opened during 2021.

Will the Financial Disclosure Statement deadline of April 30, 2020 be extended?

No, the deadline for filing is set by New Jersey Statute and the Local Finance Board does not have the power to change the filing deadline. However, the Board has been reasonable in its enforcement of the filing deadline in past years and anticipates extending the same courtesies borne of a reasonable understanding of individual circumstances during the current year.

What date will Local Government Officers be able to access the FDS system to file an individual Financial Disclosure Statement?

The filing system was opened on Monday, March 30, 2020. You may visit https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/resources/fds.html for more information on the Financial Disclosure Statement filing process.

For additional questions regarding the FDS filing system, please send an email to <u>LFB FDS@dca.nj.gov</u>.

TAX COLLECTION

Can a municipality extend the grace period for property taxes?

No, at this time no authority exists that would allow a municipality to extend the grace period more than 10 days. This is only authorized during natural disasters, under present law:

"in the case of a municipality that has experienced a flood, hurricane, superstorm, tornado, or other natural disaster, interest shall not be charged by the municipality to a delinquent taxpayer if: . . . a state of emergency has been declared as a result thereof by the Governor less than 30 days prior to the date upon which a property tax installment payment is payable" (N.J.S.A. 54:4-67).