

Judicial Performance Evaluation

Illinois

Scope. Illinois has had an official program since 1988, but it was strictly voluntary for more than twenty years. In 2011, the Supreme Court amended its rules to make participation in the JPE program mandatory for all circuit and associate judges. Judges are randomly selected for evaluation each year, with 100-125 judges evaluated in 2011. The program is designed to facilitate self-improvement and improve public confidence in the courts.

Commission. N/A

Criteria. Judges are evaluated on legal reasoning and ability, impartiality, professionalism, communication skills, and management skills.

Data collection. Surveys are completed by attorneys and court personnel who have been identified as respondents by the judges being evaluated.

Dissemination. Individual evaluation results are strictly confidential and are shared only with the evaluated judge and a trained facilitator.

Website. N/A