

It's actually not a CDOT-specific rule. CDOT engineers, as state employees are subject to statutory ethics provisions that apply to most state employees. Here are the two statutes that provide for the 6-month timeout:

24-18-105. Ethical principles for public officers, local government officials, and employees. (3) A public officer, a local government official, or an employee should not, within six months following the termination of his office or employment, obtain employment in which he will take direct advantage, unavailable to others, of matters with which he was directly involved during his term of employment. These matters include rules, other than rules of general application, which he actively helped to formulate and applications, claims, or contested cases in the consideration of which he was an active participant. (Emphasis added)

24-18-201. Interests in contracts. (1) Members of the general assembly, public officers, local government officials, or employees shall not be interested in any contract made by them in their official capacity or by any body, agency, or board of which they are members or employees. A former employee may not, within six months following the termination of his employment, contract or be employed by an employer who contracts with a state agency or any local government involving matters with which he was directly involved during his employment.