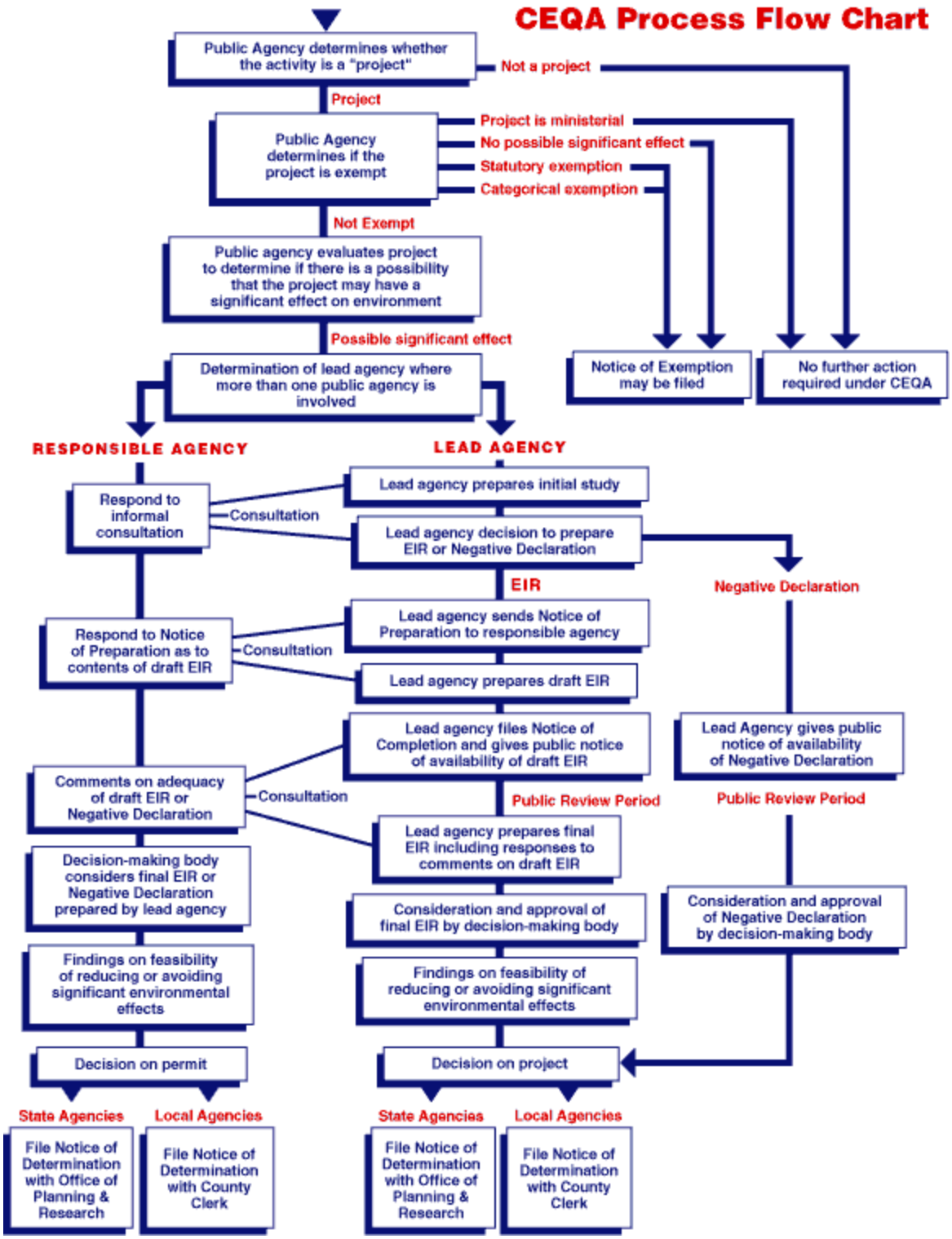
CEQA Process Flow Chart
Public Agency determines whether the activity is a "project"
Not a project
Project
Public Agency determines if the project is exempt
Project is ministerial
No possible significant effect
Statutory exemption
Categorical exemption
Not Exempt
Public agency evaluates project to determine if there is a possibility that the project may have a significant effect on environment
Possible significant effect
Determination of lead agency where more than one public agency is involved
Notice of Exemption may be filed
No further action required under CEQA
RESPONSIBLE AGENCY
LEAD AGENCY
Respond to informal consultation
Consultation
Lead agency prepares initial study
Lead agency decision to prepare EIR or Negative Declaration
EIR
Negative Declaration
Respond to Notice of Preparation as to contents of draft EIR
Consultation
Lead agency sends Notice of Preparation to responsible agency
Lead agency prepares draft EIR
Lead agency files Notice of Completion and gives public notice of availability of draft EIR
Lead Agency gives public notice of availability of Negative Declaration
Comments on adequacy of draft EIR or Negative Declaration
Consultation
Public Review Period
Public Review Period
Lead agency prepares final EIR including responses to comments on draft EIR
Decision-making body considers final EIR or Negative Declaration prepared by lead agency
Consideration and approval of final EIR by decision-making body
Consideration and approval of Negative Declaration by decision-making body
Findings on feasibility of reducing or avoiding significant environmental effects
Findings on feasibility of reducing or avoiding significant environmental effects
Decision on permit
Decision on project
State Agencies
Local Agencies
File Notice of Determination with Office of Planning & Research
File Notice of Determination with County Clerk
State Agencies
Local Agencies
File Notice of Determination with Office of Planning & Research
File Notice of Determination with County Clerk