



DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS POLICY

Policy

Standards Australia will ensure, subject to the moral and legal privacy rights of individuals, that relevant interests are declared at all levels of participation in the Standards development process, and throughout the organisation generally.

Managing different interests

The very nature of the Standards development process requires that organisations and participants with different and sometimes opposing or conflicted interests will be represented on Technical Committees and other decision making forums throughout the Standards Australia organisation.

Standards Australia acknowledges the existence of such differences and the need to facilitate the resolution of competing interests via the open and structured process that forms the basis of consensus standardisation.

Standards Australia's approach is to instil transparency and the disclosure of interests as a fundamental tenet of the organisation's ethos.

This ethos is supported where possible by appropriate policies and procedures to ensure relevant interests are disclosed and managed.

The following regulatory and internal governance documents set out obligations and procedures about disclosure of interests in Standards Australia:

1. Board of Directors

- Board Policy is that all Board and Board Committee meetings which include members who are not Directors include "Disclosure of Interests" as a standing agenda item and all Directors and Committee members are required to formally disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest.
- Board of Directors Code of Conduct includes provisions relating to the disclosure of actual or perceived conflicts of interests. The Code is signed by each Director annually.
- Directors also have significant personal obligations under the Corporations Act to disclose to the Board any interests they have in the affairs of the company. They are also obliged to make various disclosures to Members, including related party transactions.

2. Standards Technical Committees

- The [Technical Group and Committee Member Code of Conduct](#) includes provisions relating to Members disclosure of all relevant interests, including commitments to manage or remove potential, perceived or actual conflicts of interest.
- All Committee meetings have a standing agenda item providing each Member the opportunity to formally disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest.
- [Standardisation Guide 2: Structure and Operation of Standardisation Committees](#), *Clause 12.6 Declaration of interests by Committee Members*, sets out processes for Members to disclose any specific interests they may have in relation to Committee decisions or outcomes.
- [Standardisation Guide 4: Roles and Responsibilities in Standardisation](#), *Clause 6.1 Committee Member Responsibilities*, has further details of Committee Members responsibilities and behaviour in relation to declaration of interests. These apply equally to Sub Committees and Working Groups.
- [Standardisation Guide 4: Roles and Responsibilities in Standardisation](#), *Clause 8.3 Declaration of interests by Committee Chairs*, has specific disclosure rules for Committee Chairs.

3. Nomination Organisations

- The [Nominating Organisation Code of Conduct](#) has similar provisions to the Committee Member Code of Conduct.

Related information

- [Standards Australia Standards Development Competition Law Guidelines](#)