



Application Module 1.0 – The Association and its capability to operate a Professional Standards Scheme (readiness to regulate)

A. TO BEGIN THE MODULE

Central to the *Scheme Application Framework* for preparing and seeking approval of Professional Standards Schemes, new applicants are asked by the Professional Standards Councils to complete this module first, before attempting to respond to the rest of the framework. This module comprises a template, which should be completed in preparation for a pre-application workshop with the Professional Standards Authority. At the conclusion of the workshop, you will be better positioned to respond to the following submodules, which will complete the requirements for this module:

- 1.1 *Occupational group and occupational association*
- 1.2 *Association governance, conflicts of interest and financial arrangements*
- 1.3 *Association enterprise/business risk management system*
- 1.4 *Other statutory requirements*

B. WHAT IS 'READINESS TO REGULATE' IN THE CONTEXT OF A PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SCHEME?

Consideration by the Councils of the regulatory capability of your association is a threshold step in the Scheme application process. Using risk-based information, this module is designed to understand an association's readiness to regulate the professional behaviour of its members.

The risk categories to be covered are:

- membership
- governance
- occupational group
- political risk/conflict of interest
- prior performance
- resourcing
- administrative.

C. COMPLETING THE REQUIRED INFORMATION

The risk-based information required from your association is to be entered in Template 1.0.1 *Readiness to regulate*.

Before proceeding to submodules 1.1-1.4, you must arrange a meeting with the Authority (the pre-application workshop), to discuss your responses in the template and confirm the requirements for your application.