

## Overview

# Codes of ethics and practice

## Starting this module

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This submodule sets out the information about your association's code of ethics and code of practice that you need to submit with your application. These codes sit within the professional risk management system, which we often refer to as the professional integrity system. In this module and its submodules, we ask about how this system operates for consumers and members.

Complete the template in this submodule if you are making your first application for a professional standards scheme. If you are applying to remake a scheme, you only need to submit information that has changed since we last approved your scheme.

We ask for this information in line with the requirements of professional standards legislation. For example, in the Professional Standards Act 1994 (NSW), sections 10 and 36 require associations to detail the professional risk management strategies for members and how they will be implemented. Section 37 requires associations to provide us with information on their risk management strategies if we request it.

## Understanding codes of ethics or practice

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One or more occupational codes of ethics and codes of practice typically apply to association members. They may be:

- statutory codes in a single document
- statutory codes dispersed throughout laws about the occupation's regulatory environment
- occupation-wide codes
- a code operated by an individual association, which may operate alongside a statutory code.

We are interested in how these codes protect and improve professional standards and the protections for consumers of your members' services. This means that codes must:

- focus on professional standards and consumers
- be developed with the aim of improving professional standards and consumer protection
- involve consumers in their development and improvement processes
- be clearly communicated and available to the public.

Most importantly, codes must establish the level of conduct and competency that consumers and members can expect from every association member. In doing this, codes prescribe required conduct, public accountability, and transparency.

## Completing the questions

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This submodule includes the template, [Codes of ethics and practice including guidance comparison](#)

Enter the information about your association into the template.



## Overview: Codes of ethics and practice

The Code comparison tables show how these codes align with the typical code content in this guidance. If more than one code applies to your members, specify which code includes the corresponding content – for example, ‘See Code 2, page 4, “Core principles”’. Add comments as needed.

Use the Codes of ethics and practice [guidance](#) and the Professional risk management strategies [guidance](#) to help you.