



American Society for Nutrition  
*Excellence in Nutrition Research and Practice*  
[www.nutrition.org](http://www.nutrition.org)

## **Conflict of Interest Disclosure Attendance and Confidentiality Attestation**

Principles of sound management dictate that a process should exist to identify and properly manage conflicts of interest. Therefore, the Board of Directors of the American Society for Nutrition (ASN) requires all actual and potential conflicts of interest involving its directors, officers, and members of ASN Boards, committees, and task forces to be disclosed. It should be emphasized that conflicts of interest are not inherently illegal or unethical, nor should they be interpreted as reflecting upon the integrity of the individual. Rather, it is the manner in which the individual and the organization deal with a conflict which determines the propriety of the situation. All of the above persons should be aware of their fiduciary duties to ASN arising from their positions of confidence within the organization.

### **Conflict of Interest Defined**

A conflict of interest exists when a director, officer, Board, committee or task force member has a business, financial, leadership, employment, family, or other material relationship with a third party that may reasonably be perceived as creating dual loyalties or may reasonably call into question the ability of the individual to act solely for the benefit of ASN. A conflict of interest also may exist when the actions of a director, officer, Board, committee or task force member for the society involve an improper gain or advantage for such person or have an adverse effect on the society's interests.

The following circumstances shall be deemed to create Conflicts of Interest:

**Outside Interests-** Holding a board, committee, or similar position of authority or prominence, or having a material financial interest, whether directly or indirectly, in any outside entity from which the society secures goods or services, or that provides goods or services competitive with, or harmful to, the society.

**Outside Activities-** Providing directive, managerial, or consultative services to anyone who does business with, or competes with the society, or performing other services in competition with the society.

**Gifts and Gratuities-** Accepting gifts, gratuities, or other favors from those who do business with the society, seek to do business, or are competitors.

**Information-** Disclosing or using confidential or proprietary information relating to the society's business for personal profit or to the advantage of individuals or entities other than the society. To that end, the Board requires that each director, officer, and member of an ASN Board, committee, or task force attest to the following statements:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the ASN Conflict of Interest Policy.

I attach a list of all my affiliations and relationships with any person(s) (including officer or employee of ASN), firm, organization, corporation or other entity with which I have reason to believe does business, or is seeking to do business, with ASN, as well as any person, firm, organization, corporation or other entity that is competitive with ASN. I also list sources of my current research funding and any payments associated with a clinical trial provided by a trial sponsor(s).

I shall amend this list each year and more frequently as my affiliations or ASN duties change. If I become aware that any member of my family is engaged or proposed to do business with ASN, I will disclose my relationship with the person(s) and nature of the business to the President or Executive Officer.

I will recuse myself from voting on an issue in which I may have a conflict of interest, and I will refrain from participating in discussion of such matter except for purposes of providing information, including responding to questions, helpful to the other members of the relevant body.

### **Confidentiality Attestation**

Attending all teleconferences and meetings of the ASN Board of Directors is an expectation of the office I hold. If unable to attend any meeting, I will file a written report. In highly unusual circumstances, identifying a designee to attend in my place may be a possibility.

I shall not disclose non-public information concerning ASN, including information as to ASN finances, activities, plans, and prospective business opportunities, acquired by virtue of my status within ASN, nor shall I discuss confidential proceedings from an ASN meeting or sponsored event.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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**Attachment: List of Affiliations, Relationships and Research Funding**

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