



Policy

Title: **HGSA Endorsement of external policies, position statements and / or products.**

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the contexts in which the Human Genetics Society of Australasia Ltd (HGSA) will endorse the policies, position statements or products of other organisations.

2. Objective

The HGSA Board of Directors is responsible for upholding the governance arrangements of the HGSA in accordance with the Constitution.

As the peak body for human genetics clinical service delivery and workforce, including responsibilities regarding professional education and certification, the HGSA is often asked to endorse policies, position statements or products from other organisations.

This policy seeks to outline the scope and limitations of HGSA Board of Directors capacity to endorse external policies, position statements and products.

3. Scope

This policy applies to the Board of Directors of HGSA, the HGSA Secretariat and all committees and subcommittees of the HGSA.

4. Definition of endorsement

Endorsement requires the HGSA to promote and/ or publish a policy, position statement or product from another organisation.

A letter of support for another organisation's policy position is not considered "endorsement" of the policy, but is a letter outlining support for a proposed policy direction.

5. Policy

The HGSA Board of Directors will consider endorsing policies, position statements and products of other organisations provided:

- A request for endorsement is made in writing articulating what type of endorsement is requested eg. publication on website, adopted as formal position, statement of agreement;
- The request outlines the reason why HGSA endorsement will be beneficial;
- There is no conflict with existing HGSA policies, position statements or strategic objectives;
- Endorsement does not expose HGSA to additional risk; and
- Sufficient time has been provided to consider the request and endorse the product.

The HGSA Board of Directors may seek input from Special Interest Groups, Branches or any other Committees before agreeing to endorse a policy, position statement or product from another organisation.

HGSA Secretariat will provide advice of the HGSA Board of Directors' decision to endorse and arrange appropriate publication of the policy, position statement or product on the HGSA website and in the HGSA Newsletter as appropriate.

If the HGSA Board of Directors is not prepared to endorse a policy, position statement or product from another organisation, the HGSA Board of Directors will not be obliged to provide a reason for its decision.

The HGSA is unable to endorse details of university programs, or other training and education courses and curricular (or products) outside of existing arrangements for course accreditation programs (eg. Masters of Genetic Counselling course accreditation).

Contacts

For questions about this policy, contact the board, CEO or Company Secretary via secretariat@hgsa.org.au.

Endorsed by HGSA Board of Directors, 18 March 2025.