

GUIDELINES ON ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING



It is the duty of the Australian Academy of Science's Council to direct the policy of the Academy in a manner consistent with the Documents of Governance. These guidelines set out the framework within which members of Council, the Development Advisory Committee (DAC), and any individuals to whom Council delegates its authority consider matters related to acceptance of funding by the Academy. The guidelines cover all funding from external sources, including gifts, donations, legacies, bequests, sponsorships and partnerships. Project grants are considered separately by the Executive Committee of Council (EXCOM).

Guidelines on acceptance of funding

1. Before any funding is accepted by the Academy, Council and its representatives shall consider whether acceptance would:
 - a. constitute a breach of any obligation under relevant legislation
 - b. involve unacceptable risk of damage to the Academy's reputation
 - c. be incompatible with the purposes or the strategic objectives of the Academy
 - d. be inconsistent with the general ethos of the Academy (as laid out in the Academy's Documents of Governance and Strategic Plan)
 - e. be inconsistent with any specific ethical policy of the Academy
 - f. create undue additional costs or burdens for the Academy.
2. In order that Council may comply with its obligations, Council and its representatives shall seek information about the source and nature of any funding offered and any conditions that would be associated with acceptance.
3. Council and its representatives shall ensure that before any funding offered to the Academy with conditions is accepted, the purposes of the funding and any associated obligations are agreed in writing between the Academy and the provider of the funding.
4. Any funding collected through partnership initiatives is to be used explicitly for the event or activities agreed upon with the Academy. The partner or sponsor acknowledges and agrees that funding will be accepted and acknowledged by the Academy in the financial year it was received while support may be promoted by the Academy in subsequent year(s).
5. Council and its representatives shall determine how to apply any funding accepted by the Academy without conditions.
6. Unless specific agreement is made to the contrary in respect of particular funding, Council and its representatives:
 - a. shall retain sole editorial control of any publication with which the Academy is associated
 - b. shall not endorse any product or service in any such publication
 - c. shall retain sole control of any fellowship, prize, lecture, or other award granted by the Academy.
7. Council and its representatives shall ensure that:
 - a. donors receive appropriate acknowledgement, recognition, and publicity
 - b. donor privacy and if requested donor anonymity is respected
 - c. donors are kept informed about use of donated funds, consistent with the designated purpose of the funds
 - d. donations will be receipted in the financial year in which they are received, and may be applied to projects in the following financial year.

Procedure

Council delegates responsibility for deciding whether new funding from external sources fits within the above policies to EXCOM. On a day-to-day basis new funding sources are overseen by the Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer, Partnerships Manager and Philanthropy Manager within the Secretariat. In the event of an individual case being judged to be of prudential or ethical concern, the Secretariat will gather relevant information on the funder and the source of funds, and refer to the DAC for review. If there is doubt about a potential funding source, the DAC will refer the matter to EXCOM for a decision. All donations are reported to Council.