

31 July 2019

### **APESB issues revised APES 210 *Conformity with Auditing and Assurance Standards***

Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (APESB) today announced the issue of the revised APES 210 *Conformity with Auditing and Assurance Standards* (APES 210) to replace the existing APES 210 (Issued October 2015).

The key changes in the revised APES 210 consist of:

- Revisions to reflect the restructured APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)*, issued in November 2018;
- Removing references to the superseded Auditing Standards (AUSs) that have now been replaced by ASAs; and
- Providing guidance on the limited circumstances where legislation or other government authority requires a departure from Auditing and Assurance Standards.

Please refer to Appendix 1 of this technical update for details of all the revisions. The revised APES 210 will be effective from 1 January 2020 with early adoption permitted.

APESB has incorporated the following interactive PDF features within the revised APES 210:

- Bookmark tab section for contents page;
- Dynamic links to sections and paragraphs;
- Pop-up definitions upon mouse rollover for defined terms; and
- Links to external websites.

The revised standard is available from APESB's website: [www.apesb.org.au](http://www.apesb.org.au)

– ENDS –

#### **Technical Enquiries:**

Mr. Channa Wijesinghe  
Chief Executive Officer  
Email: [channa.wijesinghe@apesb.org.au](mailto:channa.wijesinghe@apesb.org.au)  
Phone: 03 9642 4372

## Appendix 1

### Revision to APES 210 (Issued October 2015)

Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (APESB) has approved the following revisions to APES 210 *Conformity with Auditing and Assurance Standards* which was originally issued in September 2008 and revised in November 2011 and October 2015.

Paragraph Reference	Revisions
1.1	<p>The objectives of APES 210 <i>Conformity with Auditing and Assurance Standards</i> are to specify a Member's professional and ethical obligations in respect of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fundamental responsibilities when the Member performs an Assurance Assignment or an Assurance Engagement;</li> <li>• compliance with applicable independence requirements;</li> <li>• compliance with Auditing and Assurance Standards; and</li> <li>• considerations of relevant Auditing and Assurance Guidance.</li> </ul>
1.2	<p>Accounting Professional &amp; Ethical Standards Board Limited (APESB) has revised professional standard APES 210 <i>Conformity with Auditing and Assurance Standards</i> (<b>the Standard</b>), which is effective from 1 January <del>2016</del> <u>2020</u> and supersedes APES 210 issued in <del>November 2014</del> <u>October 2015</u>. Earlier adoption of this Standard is permitted.</p>
1.6	<p><b>Members outside of Australia shall follow the provisions of APES 210 to the extent to which they are not prevented from so doing by specific requirements of local laws and/or regulations in the country in which they are working.</b></p>
1.7	<p><b>Members shall <u>comply with other applicable Professional Standards and be familiar with relevant Professional Standards and guidance notes when performing Professional Activities.</u> All Members shall comply with the fundamental principles outlined in the Code.</b></p>
2	<p><u>Defined terms are shown in the body of the Standard in title case.</u></p> <p>For the purpose of this Standard:</p>
2	<p><b><i>Assurance Engagement</i></b> means an Engagement in which a Member in Public Practice aims to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence in order to express a conclusion designed to enhance the degree of confidence of the intended users other than the responsible party about the subject matter information (that is, the outcome of the measurement or evaluation of an underlying subject matter against criteria).</p> <p>This includes an Engagement in accordance with the <i>Framework for Assurance Engagements</i> issued by the AUASB or in accordance with specific relevant standards, such as International Standards on Auditing, for Assurance Engagements.</p> <p><u>(For guidance on Assurance Engagements, see the <i>Framework for Assurance Engagements</i> issued by the AUASB. The <i>Framework for Assurance Engagements</i> describes the elements and objectives of an Assurance Engagement and identifies Engagements to which <i>Australian Auditing Standards</i> (ASAs), <i>Standards on Review Engagements</i> (ASREs) and <i>Standards on Assurance Engagements</i> (ASAEs) apply.)</u></p>

Paragraph Reference	Revisions
2	<del><b>AuASB</b> means the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board which issued Australian auditing and assurance standards up to 30 June 2004, under the auspices of the Australian Accounting Research Foundation, a joint venture of CPA Australia and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.</del>
2	<b>Auditing and Assurance Guidance</b> means <del>;</del> (a) the guidance statements and other guidance publications, as defined in the <i>Foreword to AUASB Pronouncements</i> , issued by the AUASB, <del>;</del> and (b) <del>the auditing and assurance guidance statements and other guidance publications issued by the AuASB on behalf of CPA Australia and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.</del>
2	<b>Auditing and Assurance Standards</b> means <del>;</del> (a) the AUASB standards, as described in ASA 100 <i>Preamble to AUASB Standards</i> , ASA 101 <i>Preamble to Australian Auditing Standards</i> and the <i>Foreword to AUASB Pronouncements</i> , issued by the AUASB, and operative from the date specified in each standard, <del>;</del> and (b) <del>those standards issued by the AuASB which have not been revised and reissued (whether as standards or as guidance) by the AUASB, to the extent that they are not inconsistent with the AUASB standards.</del>
2	<b>Code</b> means APES 110 <i>Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)</i> .
2	<b>Member in Business</b> means a Member <del>working in areas such</del> employed or engaged in an executive or non-executive capacity in such areas as commerce, industry, service, the public sector, education, the not-for-profit sector, <u>or in regulatory bodies or professional bodies, or a Member contracted by such entities who might be an employee, contractor, partner, director (executive or non-executive), owner-manager or volunteer.</u>
2	<b>Member in Public Practice</b> means a Member, irrespective of functional classification ( <del>e.g. for example,</del> audit, tax or consulting) in a Firm that provides Professional Services. This term is also used to refer to a Firm of Members in Public Practice and means a practice entity and a participant in that practice entity as defined by the applicable Professional Body.
2	<b>Professional Activity</b> means an activity requiring accountancy or related skills undertaken by a Member, including accounting, auditing, taxation, management consulting, and financial management.
3.1	In accordance with Section 100 <del>Introduction and Fundamental Principles</del> <u>Complying with the Code</u> of the Code, Members shall observe and comply with their public interest obligations when they perform an Assurance Assignment or an Assurance Engagement.
3.2	When engaged to perform an Assurance Engagement, a Member in Public Practice shall comply with <del>Section 290 Part 4A Independence for Audit and Review Engagements or Section 291 Part 4B Independence – Other for Assurance Engagements Other than Audit and Review Engagements</del> of the Code, as applicable.
3.3	In accordance with <del>Section 130 Subsection 113 Professional Competence and Due Care</del> of the Code, a Member in Public Practice who is performing an Assurance Engagement shall ensure that the Member or the Firm has the requisite professional knowledge and skill or shall engage a suitably qualified external person. If the

Paragraph Reference	Revisions
	<b>Member is unable to engage a suitably qualified person when required, the Member shall decline the Engagement.</b>
4.3	<u>The limited circumstances in which paragraph 4.2 is likely to have applicability is in respect of Assurance Engagements performed by an Auditor-General's office or department.</u>
Appendix 1	<b>Summary of revisions to APES 210 (issued in October 2015) - amended</b>