

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS

COMMITTEE FOR AUDITOR ETHICS

IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (Revised November 2024)

Johannesburg / 21 November 2024

The Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA) draws the attention of all registered auditors to the publication of the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (Revised November 2024) (the IRBA Code).

This IRBA Code is available and may be downloaded from the <u>IRBA website</u>. It includes only previously gazetted amendments and revisions, with no changes to their effective dates. Specifically, this November 2024 edition now incorporates:

- The revisions relating to (a) the definitions of a listed entity and public interest entity, and (b) technology. The revisions become effective for audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2024; and
- Changes to the definitions of "audit client" and "group audit client" arising from the approved revision to the definition of a listed entity that become effective for audits of financial statements and group financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2024.

Implementation Materials

Registered Auditors are reminded of the following supporting implementation materials:

Microsoft Word - Overview of Code - 2024_Final

Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in the IRBA Code

- Summary of Prohibitions Applicable to Audits of Public Interest Entities | Ethics Board
- IESBA Staff Q&A Revisions to the Definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity in the Code | Ethics Board

Technology-related amendments to the IRBA Code

- <u>Applying the Code's Conceptual Framework to</u> <u>Independence | Ethics Board</u>
- <u>Ethical Leadership in a Digital Era: Applying the</u> <u>IESBA Code to selected Technology-Related</u> <u>Scenarios | Ethics Board</u>

Changes to the definitions of "audit client" and "group audit client"

 IESBA Staff QA - Engagement Team Group Audit Independence | Ethics Board

Effective Date

This IRBA Code should be used along with subsequent amendments available on the <u>IRBA website</u>. The effective dates of various provisions are communicated through Board Notice. Refer to the IRBA website for the most recent updates to stay informed and ensure compliance.

Board Notice

A Board Notice to be included in the Government Gazette will announce the publication of the IRBA Code pursuant to the provisions of Section 10(1)(a) of the Auditing Profession Act, 2005 (Act No. 26 of 2005).

Status of the Code

The IRBA Code is based on Parts 1, 3, 4A and 4B of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) of the International Ethics Standards Board of Accountants (the IESBA Code) published by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) in September 2024 and is used with the permission of IFAC. <u>South African adaptations and</u> <u>amendments to the IESBA Code are underlined and in</u> <u>italics in the IRBA Code.</u>

The IRBA Code is applicable to all registered auditors. A contravention of, or failure to comply with, any requirements in the IRBA Code may be regarded as improper conduct within the ambit of Section 21 of the Auditing Profession Act, No. 26 of 2005, as amended (APA) or the <u>IRBA Rules Regarding Improper Conduct</u>. As such, a contravention of, or failure to comply with, any requirements in the IRBA Code may be investigated and, if appropriate, the registered auditor might be charged in terms of Section 48 of the APA.

Imran Vanker Director: Standards

About the IRBA

The objective of the IRBA is to endeavour to protect the financial interests of the South African public and international investors in South Africa through the effective and appropriate regulation of audits conducted by registered auditors, in accordance with internationally recognised standards and processes.

The statutory responsibilities of the Committee for Auditor Ethics are to assist the IRBA to determine what constitutes improper conduct by registered auditors by developing rules and guidelines for professional ethics, including a code of professional conduct; to interact on any matter relating to its functions and powers with professional bodies and any other body or organ of state with an interest in the auditing profession; and to provide advice to registered auditors on matters of professional ethics and conduct.









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