

## **INSTRUCTOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

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## 1. Overview

ACMA's policy and procedures regarding conflict of commitment (COC) and conflict of interest (COI) apply to all members of the ACMA faculty. The Chief Academic officer is responsible for ensuring implementation of this policy and for interpretation and overall coordination of the policy. Violation of any part of the ACMA policy on conflict of interest by an instructor or faculty member could result in sanctions and other disciplinary action. This policy will be modified as necessary to be in compliance with the requirements of external agencies.

## 2. General Principles

A. Conflict of Commitment

ACMA instructors are subject matter experts whose primary commitment of time and intellectual energies should be to the education, research and scholarship programs of the ACMA to help further the knowledge of learners. Even with such understandings in place, however, a situation that raises questions of about a possible conflict of interest may arise. In such cases, the Chief Academic officer will be notified and will discuss the situation with the instructor.

## 3. Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest occurs when there is a divergence between an individual's private interests and his or her professional obligations to the well-being of learners enrolled in ACMA educational programs. A conflict of interest depends on the situation, and not on the character or actions of the individual.

At ACMA, conflicts of interest can arise out of the fact that a mission of the ACMA is to promote the public good by fostering continued education for pharmaceutical industry professionals which we believe will raise the standards and competency of individuals engaged in the transfer of information to health care providers (HCPs) and other external stakeholders. Important means of accomplishing this mission include faculty consulting, outside speaking engagements, publications, and other scholarly activities.

It is appropriate that faculty be rewarded for their participation in these activities through consulting fees and honoraria.

However, it is prohibited that any faculty member is financially incentivized to have personal financial gain based on the revenue from the program. Such behavior calls into question the professional objectivity and ethics of the individual, and it also reflects negatively on the ACMA. The ACMA maintains a strict policy of not compensating instructors based on revenue generated from any ACMA products or services.