



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

APPROVED TERMS OF REFERENCE

Role

1. The Professional Standards Committee (the Committee) is a subcommittee of the Engineers Australia Board. Under delegated authority of the Board, the Committee is required to oversee the development and maintenance of a professional standards framework: and to
 - a) Oversee the review and redevelopment of existing stage 1, 2 and 3 competency standards, and/or the development of new standards, used for the assessment of membership grades, Chartered assessment, the accreditation of tertiary academic education programs and/or related activities which are based on engineering competency standards; and
 - b) Approve minor changes to existing competency stage 1, 2 or 3 competency standards as required from time to time, or in accordance with an approved review cycle and/or obligations under an international agreement to which Engineers Australia is a signatory
 - c) Monitor developments locally and/or globally, in conjunction with the International Advisory Panel, that may impact the engineering profession, professional mobility and the competency standards used by Engineers Australia, and provide advice to the Chief Executive Officer and/or the Board on actions that may be needed in response to any significant developments.
 - d) Oversight the various engineering practice registers such as the National Engineering Register (NER)
 - e) Undertake the role of the monitoring committee in relation to the International Professional Engineers Agreement (IPEA), the International Engineering Technologists Agreement (IETA) and the International Engineering Technicians Agreement (IntEngTechniA) and the APEC Engineer Register
 - f) Act as the EA Professional Standards Scheme Administrative Committee should such a scheme be in place at any time.

2. In its deliberations, the Committee will consider the views of industry, academia and other Engineers Australia stakeholders and will ensure that the standards in place:
 - a) Meet any requirements of relevant Australian law;
 - b) Are consistent with international best practice;
 - c) Comply with any international agreements to which Engineers Australia is a signatory; and
 - d) Are consistent with the Code of Ethics, Royal Charter, Regulations and relevant Engineers Australia policies.

Composition of the Committee

3. The Committee will normally have up to nine members including:
 - an independent Chair appointed by the Board
 - a nominee of the College Chairs Forum
 - a nominee of the Accreditation Board
 - the Executive General Manager, Professional Standards & Practice
 - the Registrar/National Manager, Professional Standards
 - up to four other members as appointed by the Chief Executive Officer on the advice of the Committee, provided that at least one member should be a Technologist or Associate member of Engineers Australia. Not all members need to be members of Engineers Australia or be engineering professionals.
4. In appointing members to the Committee, every effort should be made to appoint members with relevant skills and expertise, to maintain a reasonable gender balance and a where possible a spread of expertise across the various branches of engineering practice.
5. Members not in designated senior management roles will have a term of three years, which may be renewed for a further three years. Members may be removed by the Board at any time.

Reporting

6. The Committee will report to the Board through the Chief Executive officer annually on its operation and activities during the year.

Administrative Arrangements

7. The Committee will normally meet three to four times a year. Meetings may be via teleconference, video conference or face-to-face as appropriate. Additional meetings may be held as required. A forward meeting plan should be agreed by the Committee each year.
8. A quorum of 50% is required for a meeting and the Committee may invite the attendance of such other persons as it deems necessary.

Review and Assessment

9. The Committee is to undertake an annual evaluation of its performance and to provide the outcome in its annual report to the Board.

APPROVED: EA Board on 6 December 2018