

# Policy

**ATSE**

## Policy

History

Version

Approval body

Review date

Review body

Administrator

## Partnerships and Sponsorships Policy

**Original Policy 25 May 2021**

**Final Board Approved 25 May 2024**

**Governance – Board Operations**

**Annually**

**Audit and Risk Committee**

**Chief Executive Officer**

### Review History

Original Policy 25 May 2021; reviewed 26 May 2022 (Board 84), last reviewed 25 May 2024 (Board 90)

## **1. Introduction**

The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) is guided by its values, which are the foundation of how we behave and interact with each other – the Secretariat, the Board, our Fellows, program participants and all internal and external partners, collaborators, and stakeholders. Together our values reflect the priorities of the organisation and provide guidance and a framework in our decision making.

ATSE's policies have been developed to align with our values and ensure we observe the highest standards of conduct and ethical behaviour in all our business activities and to promote and support a culture of honesty, transparency and integrity, compliance, good governance, and fair dealing.

## **2. Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of this policy is to establish the framework and guidelines within the Academy for the creation of productive partnership alliances with government, corporations, foundations, individuals, non-government organisations, and other entities. This policy does not address donations and bequests, which are the subject of a separate ATSE policy.

## **3. Principles**

The following are the fundamental principles that shape our relationships with partners and sponsors:

- Any partnership or sponsorship must have a clearly articulated value proposition that is negotiated to mutual benefit and aligns with the values and strategic goals of both organisations.
- The Academy will not enter into any partnership or sponsorship arrangements with any corporation or organisation where the association with the prospective partner or acceptance of the sponsorship would jeopardise the integrity or values of the Academy, or adversely impact upon the Academy's standing and reputation in the community.
- The Academy will not enter into partnership or sponsorship arrangements that jeopardise ATSE's financial, legal, moral or reputational integrity.
- Sponsorship or partnership of any of the Academy's projects, programs, events or activities does not entitle any sponsor or partner to influence any outcome or decision of ATSE. Further, no agreement will impose conditions that limit, or appear to limit, the Academy's ability to carry out its mission, strategy and operations fully and impartially.
- In accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth), privacy of the Academy's Fellows, awardees, program participants and other close networks will not be compromised by any sponsorship or partnership agreement.

## **4. Policy**

The Academy's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is the only representative authorised to approve and enter into any legally binding sponsorship or partnership agreement on behalf of ATSE (in line with the ATSE Delegations Policy).

The ATSE Board may be asked to adjudicate and make a final decision in the case of an actual or perceived conflict for the CEO regarding any proposed sponsorship or partnership arrangement.

All cash or in-kind sponsorship or partnership arrangements will be codified in written contractual agreements between the Academy and the sponsor or partner. No benefits will be provided before a contract is fully executed.

The Academy will take a coordinated and strategic approach to its sponsorship and partnership, and philanthropic, community. To achieve this the Director, Partnerships must be informed of, and approve, all intended approaches before any sponsorship requests are made.

No partnership or sponsorship arrangement may be made at the financial disadvantage of the Academy. All sponsorship and financial partnership arrangements attract GST.

In-kind sponsorship is the provision of goods or services to support or enhance an Academy event or activity where free promotion is received in return. To measure the value of in-kind sponsorship, the Academy should also consider the opportunity cost (ie. how much it would have cost the Academy if it had paid for the support provided). Such consideration should be given before the services or goods are accepted.

The CEO is responsible for the application of this policy. Where a clear decision is not able to be reached or the CEO is conflicted, Board approval is required.

## **5. Conflicts of Interest**

Where an actual, potential or perceived conflict arises, individuals must disclose this immediately. Once the conflict of interest has been appropriately disclosed, the CEO, or Board as appropriate, will decide on appropriate treatment or further action depending on the scope of the conflict, which may include the conflicted individual(s) recusing themselves from all discussions and decisions related to the issue.

## **6. Endorsement and Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure alignment with relevant legislation and the requirements of the organisation. The policy will be reviewed as required, if relevant legislation changes require earlier revision.