
**INDEPENDENT REGULATORY BOARD FOR AUDITORS
COMMITTEE FOR AUDITOR ETHICS**

**Revisions to the IRBA Code to Promote the Role and Mindset Expected of
Registered Auditors**

Johannesburg / 10 March 2021

The Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA) draws the attention of all registered auditors to revisions to the IRBA Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors (Revised November 2018) (IRBA Code) to promote the role and mindset expected of registered auditors.

The IRBA adopted the amendments made to the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' (IESBA) Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA Code), issued during 2020, following the issue of proposed amendments on exposure for public comment via Government Gazette No. 42684 in South Africa on 6 September 2019 (Board Notice 160 of 2019).

The main revisions:

- Reinforce aspects of the principles of integrity, objectivity and professional behaviour;
- Raise behavioural expectations of all professional accountants through requiring them to have an inquiring mind, as they undertake their professional activities;
- Emphasise the importance of accountants being aware of the potential influence of bias in their judgments and decisions; and
- Highlight the supportive role the right organisational culture can play in promoting ethical conduct and business.

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

Effective Date

These revisions will become effective on 31 December 2021. Early adoption will be permitted.

The amendments to the IRBA Code may be downloaded from the [IRBA website](#).

Should you have any further queries, please email standards@irba.co.za.

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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.