

## OMA Conflict of Interest Policy

The Obesity Medicine Association (OMA) Board of Trustees must act at all times in the best interest of OMA. The purpose of this policy is to help inform the OMA, its members and leaders about what constitutes a conflict of interest, provide assistance in identification and disclosure of actual and potential conflicts, and help ensure the avoidance and resolution of conflicts of interest when necessary. This policy may be enforced as described below:

1. Board members have a fiduciary duty to conduct themselves without conflict to the interests of OMA. In these capacities, they must subordinate personal, individual business, third-party and other interests to the welfare and best interests of OMA.
2. A conflict of interest is a transaction or relationship which presents or may present a conflict between an individual's obligations to OMA and the individual's personal, business or other interests.
  - a. Generally, a conflict of interest could be said to exist when individuals have material interests outside OMA which could influence them, or could be perceived as influencing them to act contrary to the best interests of OMA and for their own personal benefit or the benefit of a relative or business associate. If such conflict is identified, the individual is asked to extract themselves from voting on a motion.
  - b. Frequently the type of interest resulting in a conflict would be financial, such as an individual who has an association with a third party through ownership interest, stock/bond holdings, a grant, an employment relationship, or a consultative or advisory arrangement. Examples include serving on a speakers' bureau or advisory board, as well as receiving honoraria from a medical education company for CME presentations.
  - c. In some instances a conflict of interest may exist even though the conflict does not arise out of financial considerations. For example, a member of the OMA Board of Trustees also may have a fiduciary responsibility as a member of the Board of Trustees or committee of another organization. If the interests of that organization were contrary to or in competition with the interests of OMA, a situation could exist in which the individual could not fulfill his or her fiduciary responsibilities to both organizations or may be disqualified as a board of trustee candidate during the nomination process.
3. All conflicts of interest are not necessarily prohibited or harmful to the OMA. However, **full disclosure** of all actual and potential conflicts, and a determination by the Board – with the interested individual recused from participating in debates and voting on the matter – are required. NOTE: some conflicts may lead to a disqualification during candidacy as determined by the OMA Nominating Committee.
4. All actual and potential conflicts of interest shall be disclosed by Board members through the annual disclosure statement and/or whenever a conflict arises. The disinterested members of the Board shall make a determination as to whether a conflict exists and what subsequent action is appropriate (i.e. require the person with the conflict to abstain from discussing or voting on matters involving the conflict, resign from office, etc.).
5. On an annual basis, all Board members shall be provided with a copy of this policy and are required to complete and sign the disclosure statement below. OMA will provide all members of the Board with copies of the disclosure statements for all members of the Board and will publicly list potential conflicts as part of the candidacy announcement.

*Note: A separate policy exists for all OMA Continuing Medical Education activities. Individuals participating in these activities are subject to the "OMA Policy for Commercial Support and Continuing Education Programs" and should complete the full disclosure statement developed solely for these activities.*

**Disclosure Statement**

I have read the OMA conflict of interest policy set forth above and agree to comply fully with its terms and conditions at all times during my service to OMA. If at any time following submission of this form I become aware of any actual or potential conflicts of interest, or if the information provided below becomes inaccurate or incomplete, I will promptly notify the OMA Executive Director in writing. I understand that if I indicate a financial or other relationship or interest below, that information will be reviewed to determine whether this relationship precludes my participation on the Board. I understand that failure or refusal to disclose, false disclosure, or inability to resolve conflicts of interest will disqualify me from participating on the Board immediately. I agree that as an OMA Board of Trustee member I will make every effort that all my Association related activities and votes will be solely in the best interest of the OMA.

Disclosure of Actual or Potential Conflicts of Interest occurring within 1 year of the date of this form and within the foreseeable future:

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Disclosure of ANY interests that could possibly result in a Conflict of Interest in the future with OMA, such as an ownership interest in any business, stock/bond holdings, a grant, an employment relationship, or consultative or advisory arrangement, etc.:

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Disclosure of involvement / relationships with other similar or competitive associations / societies which represent interests of obesity medicine clinicians (please specify your level of involvement, i.e. board member, committee leader, committee member, general member, etc.):

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**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print Name**

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**Date**