



INSTRUCTIONAL PERSONNEL DISCLOSURE POLICY

Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to ensure balance, independence, objectivity and best practices in all MESA Global Education Program courses/content. The desired outcome of this policy is to conduct educational events that are free from the appearance of or actual conflicts of interest and to avoid the introduction/demonstration of bias in favor or against a product, service, or device in return for known or unknown personal or professional gain. The intent of this policy is to ensure that any potential conflict will be identified openly so that the course/workshop participants may form their own judgements about the content with the full disclosure of facts.

During the introduction to all MESA Global Education Program (GEP) training events, including courses and workshops, the MESA Approved Instructor/Facilitator (MAI/MAF) is required to disclose all proprietary interests, including relevant financial and nonfinancial relationships that could be perceived as a conflict of interest, to the Learners/Students.

Relevant financial and nonfinancial relationships include any that could influence the information presented in the course and could be perceived as a conflict of interest by the learners.

Some examples of proprietary disclosures include the following:

- “The instructor/facilitator holds patent rights to the instrument.”
- “The instructor/facilitator has a financial interest in this instrument.”
- “The instructor/facilitator is employed by (name of company).”
- “The instructor/facilitator owns more than 10% of stock in (name of company).”
- “The instructor/facilitator serves on the Board of Directors for (name of organization) and receives no compensation as a board member.”

A disclaimer of proprietary interest may be appropriate, especially if such interests are unclear. An example of an appropriate disclaimer follows:

- “The instructor/facilitator has no proprietary interest in development or marketing of this instrument, and no financial interest in the (name of company).”

At the start of the course or workshop, the following should be stated:

- The name of the instructional personnel
- Relevant financial relationship(s); listing the name of the organization and type of financial relationship; and
- Relevant nonfinancial relationship(s); listing the name of the organization and type of nonfinancial relationship; or
- Indicate no relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships exist

Instructors/facilitators should disclose any relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to MESA prior to their acceptance of becoming an approved MAI/MAF. They should update their disclosure with MESA on an annual basis.

MAI/MAF are not to promote the exclusive use of any commercial product during instruction. If a MAI/MAF is reported to MESA by Learners as failing or refusing to disclose any related financial or nonfinancial relationships, he/she is immediately suspended from further MESA activities until the MESA Knowledge Committee Chair determine the proper reprimand or punishment based on circumstances.