



Standard Area 2.0

Professional Responsibility and Accountability

2.5 Conflict of Interest

Standard

A **registrant** of RCASLPNB identifies and manages all situations or circumstances of real, perceived, or potential **conflict of interest** to safeguard their professional integrity and uphold the best interests of **patients or clients**.

Indicators

To demonstrate this standard, the registrant will:

- a) Identify situations that could lead to or be interpreted as a conflict of interest (e.g., potential for personal or financial gain), avoiding such conflicts whenever possible.
- b) Manage real, perceived or potential conflict of interest situations through appropriate actions (e.g., disclosure or transfer of care to minimize the impact).
- c) In situations when conflicts of interest cannot be avoided or resolved, document a description of the situation, efforts to resolve the conflict and the outcome.

Expected Outcome

Patients or clients can expect audiologists and speech-language pathologists to act in their best interest, disclose any conflicts of interest, and take steps to address conflicts in a transparent and respectful manner.

Conflict of interest refers to a situation in which someone in a position of trust has competing professional and/or personal interests. Such competing interests can make it difficult to act impartially. A conflict of interest may exist even if no unethical or improper act results from it. A conflict of interest can undermine confidence in the person or the profession.

Patient or client refers to a recipient of the services of an audiologist or speech-language pathologist.

Registrant means an audiologist or a speech-language pathologist and any person whose name is entered in the temporary register or in any of the rosters established and maintained under the *Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Act*, the bylaws and rules.