Financial Conflict of Interest Definitions

1. **Commercial entity** means any corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, limited liability company, or other legal entity organized for profit. The term does not include the University or any other entity controlled by the University. For faculty members in the professional schools, a **commercial entity** does not include a client to whom you provide individual professional services (e.g., an individual for whom a trusts and estates professor in the Law School prepares a will or provides estate planning advice; an individual or corporation for whom a faculty member in The Design School designs a residence or building). The term does include a law firm, architectural firm or other professional firm or business enterprise with which a faculty member is affiliated (e.g., in an "of counsel" relationship or as a partner or member in such a firm).

2. **Disclosure** refers to an investigator’s disclosure of Significant Financial Interests related to their institutional responsibilities.

3. **Family or Relative** includes your spouse or domestic partner, children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, brothers, and sisters (including half-brothers and half-sisters) and the spouses of children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, brothers, and sisters (including half-brothers and half-sisters). Also included are the spouse’s parents, brother, sisters and children.

4. **Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI)** means a Significant Financial Interest (SFI) that could directly and significantly affect the design, conduct, or reporting of funded research.

5. **Financial interest** and **financial benefit** mean the receipt or expectation of anything of monetary value, including, among others, salary or other payments for services (e.g., consulting fees or honoraria), equity or other ownership interests, and intellectual property rights (e.g., patents, copyrights and royalties from such rights). The terms do not include:
   - salary, royalties or other remuneration paid by the University directly to an employee of the University;
   - income from seminars, lectures or teaching engagements sponsored by public or nonprofit entities;
   - income from service on review panels or advisory committees for public or nonprofit entities;
   - income from writing or editing professional journals or textbooks; or a financial interest in a **commercial entity** if the value of such financial interest, when aggregated with the interests of your **family**, does not exceed reporting thresholds ($5,000 for investigators supported by a PHS agency or $10,000 for other investigators) and does not represent more than a 5% ownership interest in the **commercial entity**.

6. **Investigator** means any person, regardless of title, position, or employment status who is responsible for the design, conduct, or reporting of research at, on behalf of, or in collaboration with the University. This will normally not be a student, post-doc, consultant, technician, or staff member.

7. **Institutional Responsibility** refers to an Investigator’s professional responsibilities performed on behalf of Arizona State University including but not limited to: research, research consultation, teaching, professional practice, institutional committee memberships, and service on panels such as Institutional Review Boards or Data and Safety Monitoring Boards.
8. **Pecuniary interest** means money. Anytime an ASU employee or a relative of an ASU employee might benefit monetarily by an ASU contract, purchase, sale, or decision, the employee or relative has a substantial interest. The monetary benefit to the ASU employee or relative may be direct or indirect.

9. **Proprietary interest** means ownership. Anytime an ASU employee or a relative of an ASU employee holds an ownership interest in a corporation, partnership, other legal entity that is about to enter into a transaction with ASU, the ASU employee or relative has a proprietary interest.

10. **Remote Interest** means the following:

    - **Nonprofit Corporation.** An ASU employee or a relative of an ASU employee who is a nonsalaried officer of a nonprofit corporation has a remote interest in any ASU transaction with or decision affecting that corporation.
    
    - **Landlord/Tenant of a Contracting Party.** An ASU employee or relative of an ASU employee who is a landlord or tenant of another party has a remote interest in any ASU transaction with or decision affecting the other party.
    
    - **Attorney of a Contracting Party.** An ASU employee or relative of an ASU employee who is an attorney for a client has a remote interest in any ASU transaction with or decision affecting the client.
    
    - **Nonprofit Cooperative Marketing Association.** An ASU employee or relative of an ASU employee who is a member of a nonprofit cooperative marketing association has a remote interest in any ASU transaction with or decision affecting that association.
    
    - **Insignificant Stock Ownership.** An ASU employee or relative of an ASU employee who owns shares of a for-profit corporation has a remote interest in any ASU transaction with or decision affecting the corporation, if three conditions are satisfied:

        - ownership is less than three percent of the shares of the corporation
        - the dividends (including the value of stock dividends) from the corporation do not exceed five percent of the person’s total annual income
        - any other payments made to the person by the corporation do not exceed five percent of the person’s total annual income.

    - **Reimbursement of Expenses.** An ASU employee or relative of an ASU employee being reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duty has a remote interest in any decision affecting the reimbursement.
    
    - **Recipient of Public Services Generally Available.** An ASU employee or relative of an ASU employee who receives public services provided to the general public by a government or governmental agency by which he or she is employed has a remote interest in any contract with or decision affecting services to the employee or relative. The services must be provided on the same terms and conditions as are provided to nonemployees.
**Public School Board Member.** The interest of a public school board member is a remote interest when the decision involves a relative who is not a dependent or a spouse of the school board member.

**Public Agency Employee.** The interest of an ASU employee or relative of an ASU employee is a remote interest when the transaction with ASU or the ASU decision indirectly affects that person as a public officer or employee of another public agency or political subdivision and does not confer a direct economic benefit or detriment upon the ASU employee or relative.

**Class Interests.** An ASU employee or relative of an ASU employee who is a member of a trade, business, profession, or other class of persons of at least ten members with an interest no greater than the interest of the other members of the class has a remote interest in a decision by ASU affecting the class.

11. **Remuneration** means salary or any payment for services not otherwise identified as salary (e.g., consulting fees, honoraria, paid authorship).

12. **Substantial Interest** is any pecuniary or proprietary interest, direct or indirect.

13. **Used the services of any Arizona State University students or employees** does not include infrequent or incidental use of students or employees in connection with your reportable outside activities.