



## anf position statement

# australian nursing federation

## anf representatives on national committees

The Australian Nursing Federation is the national union for nurses and midwives in Australia and the largest nursing and midwifery professional association representing the interests of nurses, midwives and assistants in nursing. The ANF should be consulted on policy matters and be represented on all committees whose deliberations may affect the interest of nurses and midwives.

Nurses and midwives form the largest component of the health care workforce. It is therefore important that they are engaged in the development and implementation of policy decisions that have the potential to impact on the practice of nurses and midwives and the communities for whom they provide care.

The purpose of representation on national committees is to promote and protect the interests of ANF members, nursing and midwifery, and the people to whom nurses and midwives provide nursing and midwifery care.

It is the position of the Australian Nursing Federation that:

1. Representatives must be members of the ANF and will be selected for their:
  - expert knowledge and professional expertise;
  - understanding of the relevant committee's aims and objectives;
  - commitment to ANF policy.
2. Representatives must be able to represent the policies and views of the ANF on the particular committee.
3. Representatives must be able to make time available to prepare for, attend and report on meetings, activities and outcomes of the particular committees.
4. Representatives must provide regular (at least annually), and on request, verbal and/or written reports of the activities, progress and outcomes of the committee on which they sit on behalf of the ANF to a nominated officer from the ANF Federal Office.
5. Representatives must consult with the ANF Federal Office to ensure accurate representation of the ANF's views on issues under discussion by the particular committee.
6. If unable to attend a meeting, representatives must consult with the ANF Federal Office so that a suitable proxy can be appointed.
7. Representatives should advise the ANF Federal Office of any issues that may be of potential concern to the ANF and ensure that dissenting ANF views to any decisions taken are recorded in the minutes of a meeting.

8. A nominated officer from the ANF Federal Office will provide information and support as required, including assisting the representative to determine the objectives of the representation on the particular committee, and to review progress and receive reports against the set objectives.
9. The ANF will liaise with the representative to identify and measures that may be required to prevent them suffering financial disadvantage as a result of acting on behalf of the ANF.

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