# Conflict of interest statement

**Law regarding partiality/impartiality**

The Public Administration Act contains provisions regarding conflict of interest that will help to ensure objective and impartial proceedings and thereby strengthen each citizen’s confidence in government. These provisions apply to anyone acting on behalf of the public. If an individual is disqualified, he or she has the right and obligation to retire from consideration of a case. The current provisions on disqualification are contained in the Public Administration Act Sections 6 – 10. The individual is obliged to consider his or her impartiality and within an adequate time give notice of conditions that **could** lead to his or her disqualification.

**Concerning the assessment of partiality/impartiality**

Disqualification of an individual can occur automatically because he or she is a party to the case; or for example, because the individual is a close relative of the candidate. Disqualification may also occur after a discretionary assessment. During which, it is important to determine whether or not there are *special circumstances that are liable to undermine confidence in the individual’s impartiality.* Examples of special circumstances can be that the latter has had some form of supervisory function over the candidate, joint publications or joint ventures, a close professional or personal affiliation with the candidate, etc. In this respect, a discretionary assessment that finds an individual impartial can often be more difficult than an assessment which finds a person automatically disqualified. It is therefore important to inform about any relationship even if the individual has already concluded that he or she is impartial in the matter.

**What is an individual disqualified from doing?**

If an individual is found to be partial, he or she is disqualified, both in the preparation of a case and with regard to making decisions concerning the case. If a senior individual is disqualified in a case, this decision cannot be made by a subordinate in a direct line in the same administrative or academic unit, so-called derivative disqualification. Derived disqualification affects only the right to make a decision in the matter. The subordinate can therefore still continue to prepare the grounds for the decision, provided that the personal connection between the senior and the subordinate is not so close that this would lead to the latter being disqualified.

**Consequences of disqualification**

Disqualification may result in a decision that has been made, later being found to be invalid.

# Declaration of impartiality regarding employment in temporary position at NTNU, ePhorte no. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Please fill in and sign the following:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Question:** | **Yes:** | **No:** |
| 1. | Are you a member of the Candidate’s/Candidates’ family? |  |  |
| 2. | Have you authored any publications with the Candidate/s? |  |  |
| 3. | Have you had any supervisory function with respect to the Candidate/s? |  |  |
| 4. | Do you know of any other relationship that you believe would be likely to impair your impartiality? |  |  |

If you are not fully sure whether or not there are circumstances that are likely to impair your impartiality in this matter, please provide a description of them here. Applicable also if you have additional comments related to any of the questions you have answered “Yes” to above.

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In accordance with the Public Administration Act §§ 6 – 10, I consider myself to be impartial in this specific case.

Place \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_

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