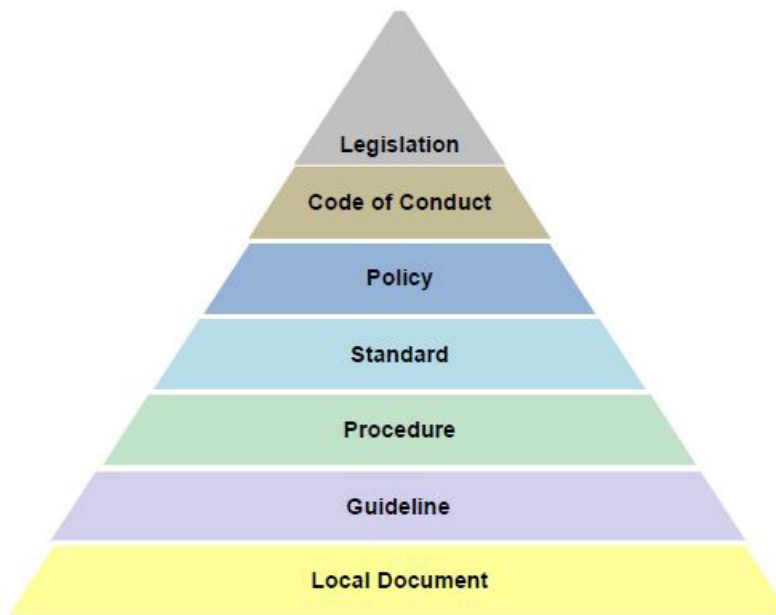


UNSW Policy Hierarchy

This diagram depicts the hierarchy, and order of precedence, of Documents included in the University's Policy Framework:



The Policy Hierarchy requires that each Document lower in the hierarchy must relate to, and be consistent with, a Document higher in the hierarchy.

- In the case of staff, compliance with applicable Codes of Conduct, Policies, Standards and Procedures is a requirement of their contract of employment and of their continuing employment.
- In the case of students, compliance with applicable Codes of Conduct, Policies, Standards and Procedures is a condition of admission and of their continuing enrolment.

Codes of Conduct

Codes of Conduct are documents that express the behaviour that is expected and necessary to meet the core values and obligations of the University. Codes of Conduct are approved by Council and are always University-wide documents. There are currently four Codes of Conduct at the University:

- *Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech Code of Conduct*
- *Code of Conduct (staff)*
- *Research Code of Conduct*
- *Student Code of Conduct*

Policies

Policies are documents that describe the principles that govern and guide conduct and decision making in a particular context. Policies are always University-wide documents. They must be high-level and principles-based and express the objectives and intentions of the University. Compliance with Policies is mandatory.

Standards

Standards are documents that specify operational criteria for products, services and systems to ensure that they are safe, reliable and consistently perform the way that they are intended to. They are often developed for the purpose of meeting legal or industry-related requirements. A Standard may be a University-wide Document or a Local Document (where permitted under relevant University-wide Documents). Compliance with Standards is mandatory.

Procedures

Procedures are operational documents that describe the processes and actions that are required to enable the implementation of a Policy. A Procedure may also be developed to ensure compliance with legislative requirements. A Procedure may be a University-wide Document or a Local Document (where permitted under relevant University-wide Documents). Compliance with Procedures is mandatory.

Guidelines

Guidelines are documents that provide detail and context for particular matters that are generally the subject of a University legislative obligation, or a Policy, Standard or Procedure. Guidelines provide a pathway for staff and students to follow. A Guideline may be a University-wide Document or a Local Document. Compliance with Guidelines is not mandatory, however staff and students are strongly encouraged to comply with Guidelines wherever possible.

Local Documents

Procedures and Guidelines may be created which are specific to a particular Division, Faculty or School. These are referred to as Local Documents.

Refer to the Local Documents information in section 6 of the *Policy Framework Procedure*.