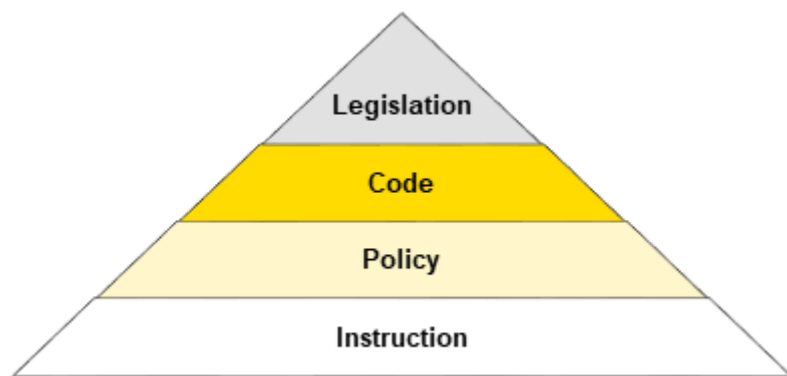


# UNSW Policy Hierarchy

The policy hierarchy below shows documents included in the UNSW Policy Framework in order of precedence. A document lower in the hierarchy must be consistent with a document higher in the hierarchy. Where it is not consistent, the higher document overrules the lower document to the extent of the inconsistency.



**Legislation** includes Commonwealth, NSW and ACT laws with which UNSW must comply, including regulations and by-laws made under the *University of New South Wales Act 1989 (NSW)*.

**Codes** state the behaviour necessary to meet the core values and obligations of the University. Council approves codes and they are university-wide document.

A code may:

- state principles (objectives that govern and guide conduct and decision-making)
- state university-wide requirements, and
- contain **standards** that state required behaviour to achieve the principles of the code.

**Policies** are documents that:

- state principles (objectives that govern and guide conduct and decision-making)
- state university-wide requirements
- authorise positions to make decisions to implement the policy on behalf of the University
- may authorise a position to approve changes to a standard or procedure section of the policy
- are approved by the Vice-Chancellor, and
- may contain:
  - **standards** that state required behaviour, levels of quality or an operating standard for a product, service or system, to achieve the principles of the policy
  - **procedures** that state university-wide requirements to achieve the principles of the policy, and
  - **schedules** which, if they need to be changed, can be submitted to the policy approving authority for approval separately from the policy as a whole.

**Instructions:**

- state university-wide requirements (or requirements that apply more widely than to an individual division or faculty) when approved by a person with the authority to do so under the [Register of Delegations](#) or their parent code or policy. University-wide instructions must be linked to the parent code or policy.
- state requirements that apply specifically to, a division, faculty or school and its students as authorised by a divisional head, dean, head of school, director or 'head of' positions.
- must be consistent with codes and policies; an instruction specific to a division, faculty or school must also be consistent with any university-wide instruction.
- must identify any UNSW-wide policy document that they supplement, and
- must be published on a division, faculty or school web page that is linked to the [UNSW policy website](#).