



Audit and attest standards update

The Auditing Standards Board (ASB) met in San Diego on January 13-16, 2020.

The Board voted to ballot for issuance a final Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS) titled *Amendments to AU-C Sections 800, 805, and 810 to Incorporate Auditor Reporting Changes from SAS No. 134*. As stated in the title, the SAS amends these AU-C sections to reflect changes to the auditor's report included in SAS No. 134, *Auditor Reporting and Amendments, Including Amendments Addressing Disclosures in the Audit of Statements*, issued in May 2019. The effective date of the SAS aligns with the effective date of SAS No. 134, which is effective for audits of financial statements for periods ending on or after December 15, 2020. Early implementation is not permitted.

The ASB discussed a project to advance the U.S. adoption of certain changes to the auditor's responsibility to communicate actual or suspected instance of an entity's noncompliance with laws or regulations (NOCLAR) or fraud to successor auditors. The ASB deliberated on an exposure draft that would enhance the requirements regarding communication to successor audits and will continue discussion of an exposure draft at its April 2020 meeting.

The ASB further considered the proposed SAS *Audit Evidence* with the intent of finalizing the proposed SAS in May. The review focused on finalizing the requirements and definitions. The Board also discussed the consideration of auditor bias in evaluating evidence.

The ASB further considered its project to enable practitioners to perform direct examination and review attestation engagements designed to provide flexibility and enable new services for practitioners as well as align certain aspects of traditional examination and review engagements conducted pursuant to the attestation standards with international standards.

The ASB also discussed several ongoing projects including the comment letter responses on the exposure draft related to auditing estimates, a proposed SAS to substantially revise the current risk assessment standards, and discussed a project to address management specialists and consideration of convergence with recently issued PCAOB standards.

The ASB also met with PCPS Technical Issues Committee and with the Assurance Services Executive Committee and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Members can access valuable information and resources on these standards by visiting our [auditing standards hub site](#).