

## INTRODUCTION: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 7. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

#### **Conflict of Interest Rules and Policy**

The WSIB has in place regulations (Chapter 287-04 WAC) and a policy (2.00.100) which addresses the Ethics in Public Service Act (Chapter 42.52 RCW), conflict of interest matters and related issues.

The policy also covers gifts, travel, personal investments, use of position, recusal, and sanctions for violations.

The law, rules, and the policy are to ensure the exclusion of any professional or personal conflicts which may be detrimental to the WSIB, the funds it invests and fund beneficiaries.

#### **Employment Restrictions**

RCW 43.33A.060 specifies that "No member during the term of appointment may be employed by any investment brokerage or mortgage servicing firm doing business with the State Investment Board. A trust department of a commercial bank or trust company organized under federal or state law is not considered a mortgage servicing firm for purposes of this section."

Other limitations placing restrictions on employment during or after state employment include those found in the Ethics in Public Service Act, Chapter 42.52 RCW. In particular, a Board member may not have a financial or other interest, engage in any business, transaction or professional activity, or incur any obligation which is in conflict with official duties (RCW 42.52.020). Moreover, a Board member may not accept employment which adversely affects the performance of official duties, discredits the WSIB, or results in a conflict of interest (WAC 287-04-040).

#### **References:**

Chapter 42.52 RCW, Ethics in Public Service	Appendix A
Chapter 287-04 WAC, SIB Administrative Rule, Conflict of Interest	Appendix A