



Pursuant to the Department's Drug and Alcohol Policy, the Department takes a 'zero tolerance' approach to the possession, use and trafficking of illicit drugs. This is because one of the Department's core functions is to detect, deter and disrupt the importation of illicit drugs into Australia, and to enforce the laws established by the Australian Government regarding the importation of these substances. The range of substances that the Department is charged with protecting the Australian community from includes (but is not limited to):

- 'traditional' illicit drugs such as marijuana, heroin, cocaine, ecstasy and methamphetamine,
- steroids and other performance and image enhancing substances,
- pharmaceutical substances and prescription drugs such as benzodiazepines and opiate based medications (when consumed for a non-prescribed or non-medical purpose),
- novel psychoactive substances or other substances commonly referred to, or marketed as, 'legal' or 'natural' alternatives to illicit drugs, and
- precursor chemicals used or associated with the manufacture of illicit drugs.

There is, therefore, an inherent conflict between individuals who consume the very same substances (or associate with individuals who consume those substances) that they are, through their employment or association with the Department, prohibiting from importation by law.

In addition, by its very nature, obtaining illicit drugs may require an individual to directly break the law and/or interact with other individuals who are involved in criminal activity. The act of purchasing illicit drugs also inherently conflicts with the role of the Department in disrupting serious and organised crime, because the profits from illicit drug sales are one of the primary sources of income for criminal enterprises.

Acknowledgement and Declaration

1. I acknowledge that I understand that one of the Department's core functions is to detect, deter and disrupt the importation of illicit drugs into Australia, and to enforce the laws established by the Australian Government regarding the importation of illicit drugs.
2. I acknowledge that I understand that I am, directly or indirectly through my employment or association with the Department, responsible for deterring, detecting and disrupting the importation of illicit drugs into Australia.
3. I acknowledge that I understand that there is an inherent conflict between consuming the very same illicit drugs (and associating with individuals who consume illicit drugs) that I am, through my employment or association with the Department, prohibiting from importation by law.
4. I acknowledge that I understand that I must be granted an Employment Suitability Clearance in order to be eligible to be employed by the Department or to have non-public access to the Department's resources (such as the Department's premises and ICT assets).
5. I acknowledge that I understand that the Department will consider whether I have consumed, participated in or knowingly had an ongoing association with persons involved in the use, sale, distribution, manufacture, exportation or importation of illicit drugs as part of my Employment Suitability Clearance.
6. I declare that I do not consume illicit drugs and will not consume illicit drugs for the duration of my employment or association with the Department.
7. I acknowledge that I understand I must declare associations with any person that I know or reasonably suspect to consume illicit drugs or be involved in the sale, distribution, manufacture, exportation or importation of:
 - a. illicit drugs,
 - b. precursor chemicals to be used in the manufacture of illicit drugs, or
 - c. equipment to be used in the manufacture of illicit drugs (such as tablet presses or tablet press parts).
8. I acknowledge that I understand that the Department will undertake a risk assessment of the declaration and, taking into account my circumstances, may take the following action:
 - a. note the declaration,
 - b. establish an Aftercare Arrangement, or
 - c. direct me to relinquish the association.
9. I acknowledge that I understand that providing false or misleading information to a Commonwealth entity is an offence under section 137.1 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth).

Full Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____