

As coordinator of the U.S. voluntary standardization system, the [American National Standards Institute](#) (ANSI) is a private, non-profit organization working to enhance U.S. competitiveness and quality of life by promoting, facilitating, and safeguarding the integrity of the voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system.

### **Membership**

[Membership](#) in the ANSI Federation – comprising thousands of companies, organizations, government entities, consumer groups, and educational institutions – provides a voice and influence over the standards and conformity assessment decisions directly affecting every industry. The Institute represents the diverse interests of millions of stakeholders who are harnessing the power of standards to position themselves for success.

### **American National Standards**

ANSI does not itself develop standards; rather, technical and professional societies, trade associations, and other standards development organizations are accredited by the Institute and create standards intended to be approved as [American National Standards](#) (ANS). To maintain ANSI accreditation, standards developers are required to consistently adhere to a set of requirements or procedures – the [ANSI Essential Requirements](#) – that govern the consensus development process. Individual documents developed in accordance with ANSI-accredited procedures may be approved as American National Standards (ANS). This process serves and protects the public interest since [standards developers accredited by ANSI](#) – and the ANS they develop – must meet the Institute’s requirements for openness, balance, consensus, and other due-process safeguards, including ANSI’s neutral oversight, appeals process, and routine procedural audits, assuring that all interested and affected parties have an opportunity to participate in a standard’s development.

### **Standards Coordination**

ANSI is highly involved in coordinating standardization in fields vital to U.S. interests and priorities, often in cutting-edge industries such as nanotechnology, additive manufacturing, and unmanned aircraft systems. The Institute establishes ongoing [standards collaboratives](#) and partnerships as well as topical workshops to address specific standardization needs. Relying on the cooperation of volunteers from diverse industries and sectors, ANSI is able to identify gaps in existing standards and make recommendations for future work.

### **International Standardization**

ANSI promotes the use of U.S. standards internationally, advocates U.S. policy and technical positions in international and regional standards organizations, and encourages the adoption of international standards as national standards where they meet the needs of the user community. The Institute is the official U.S. representative to [the International Organization for Standardization \(ISO\)](#) and, via the [U.S. National Committee \(USNC\)](#), [the International Electrotechnical Commission \(IEC\)](#), and is a founding member and Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) signatory of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). Additionally, ANSI represents the U.S. in all major regional standardization forums worldwide.

As a founding ISO member, ANSI plays a strong leadership role in ISO's governing council, and the USNC is equally well-positioned in the IEC. Through ANSI, the U.S. has direct access to ISO and IEC standards development, as ANSI participates in most technical programs of both organizations and administers many key committees/groups. Among its responsibilities as the U.S. member to ISO, [ANSI accredits U.S. Technical Advisory Groups](#) (TAGs) to develop and advance U.S. positions within ISO technical committees. U.S. positions for the IEC are similarly overseen by the [USNC Technical Management Committee](#) (TMC).

### Public Policy and Government Affairs

Nearly every government agency has a need for standards, whether as an element of regulatory regime, a key part of procurement policy and operations, or in efforts to ensure public safety and health. ANSI encourages greater use of voluntary consensus standards by government agencies and broader participation by agency personnel in standards development. [And the Institute works with its many government members](#) on outreach to agencies and legislators, often including public testimony when called upon and coordinated input to requests for comment, to foster increased understanding of the importance and power of standardization.

### [webstore.ansi.org](http://webstore.ansi.org)

ANSI provide access to hundreds of thousands of standards produced by hundreds of individual developers through its e-commerce site, [webstore.ansi.org](http://webstore.ansi.org). The site offers individual standards for sale as well as Standards Subscriptions – custom, multi-user solutions for an organization's specific standards needs.

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### ANAB

The [ANSI National Accreditation Board](#) (ANAB), a wholly owned subsidiary of ANSI, promotes confidence in the marketplace through its accreditation programs for a wide array of conformity assessment bodies including: management systems certification bodies, calibration and testing labs, product certification bodies, personnel certification and personnel credentialing bodies, forensic test and calibration service providers, inspection bodies, greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies, reference material producers, and proficiency test providers.



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### Workcred

An affiliate of ANSI, [Workcred's](#) mission is to strengthen workforce quality by improving the credentialing system, ensuring its ongoing relevance, and preparing employers, workers, educators, and governments to use it effectively.



Through research, consulting, and educational activities, Workcred collaborates with industry, government, and training/education partners to improve the quality, effectiveness, and market value of credentials. Workcred's expertise includes assessing workforce needs, developing or revising credentials, creating career pathways, and fostering greater alignment between education/training, credentialing, and industry needs.

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