

**ANSI ExSC Interpretation:
Consideration of “Openness” with respect to
Membership on an ANS Consensus Body (2011)**

The ExSC considered and discussed the implementation of clause 1.1 *Openness* within the context of “organizational” versus “individual” membership on an American National Standard (ANS) consensus body. The ExSC noted the use of “all persons” within this clause:

1.1 Openness

Participation shall be open to **all persons** who are directly and materially affected by the activity in question. There shall be no undue financial barriers to participation. Voting membership on the consensus body shall not be conditional upon membership in any organization, nor unreasonably restricted on the basis of technical qualifications or other such requirements.

The ExSC agreed that an ANSI-Accredited Standards Developer’s procedures cannot categorically or otherwise exclude an “individual” from applying for membership on an ANS consensus body. If an individual applies for membership, the application has to be considered.