



Policy on Acceptance of Funding from External Partners

Implementation Date: April, 2008

Purpose

These guidelines provide a framework for the Association's fiscal interaction with external partners (i.e., corporations, businesses, universities and other outside agencies). The guidelines specify the types of funding that AIM may accept to support its work. They are consistent with policies of other nonprofit, public health membership associations.

Need

Recognizing that a broad and diverse source of funding for AIM is needed to accomplish its strategic goals and objectives, AIM reserves the right to seek payment for services rendered and pursue additional sources of funding. AIM will accept funding according to the principles outlined below.

Types of acceptable funding

1. Consultation fees (hourly rate for AIM time on projects approved by the Executive Committee)
2. Conference-related fees: registration, exhibit space, event sponsorship, meals, refreshments, etc.
3. Grants and contributions (according to the principles described below)

Principles

Transparency and Full Disclosure

AIM will document all activities supported by external partner contributions to its members and the public as appropriate.

No Implied Endorsement

AIM will not endorse any commercial products or external partners. Participation in an external partnership or acceptance of contributions does not imply AIM approval of an external partner's policies or endorsement of their products.

No Direct Advocacy

AIM will not advocate for a particular issue solely because it has received funding from an external partner.

Use of Contribution Funds

Contributions to AIM listed as “unrestricted” may be used to support AIM advocacy and other efforts consistent with AIM’s mission. Use of funding is determined by AIM and not influenced by external partners.

Avoidance of Conflict of Interest

No AIM staff member, Executive Committee member, other individual or business may benefit from AIM financial interactions.

Objectivity and Control

AIM financial interactions must preserve or promote trust in AIM and its membership. AIM will remain objective, regardless of any funding or external partnership. Financial interactions do not permit an external partner to influence the content of AIM programs, products, services and related activities. AIM reserves the right to maintain complete control over all AIM programs, products, services and related activities. AIM reserves the right to approve all materials relating to an external partnership.

Consistency with Mission

AIM’s mission, vision and values must direct any financial interaction with external partners. AIM will not accept support from external partners where the external partner has adopted policies that do not support the basic principles of public health or AIM’s mission, vision and values.

Approval

Prior to the acceptance of any funding approval must be received by the AIM Executive Committee.

Funding offers greater than \$5,000 must receive approval through a majority vote of the AIM General Membership. Lower amounts may be brought to membership at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

The approval process will include a description of activities and/or staff time intended to be supported by the funding, the funding source, and any reporting or evaluation plans.

Approved, AIM Executive Committee, April 10, 2008

Approved, AIM General Membership, April 16, 2008