

JOB DESCRIPTION

Position:	Technical Director Accounting Standards (full-time permanent)
Reports to:	Director Accounting Standards
Reports:	Up to 8 staff (indirect)
Location:	Wellington or Auckland

Organisation:

The External Reporting Board (XRB) is an independent Crown entity with responsibility for all aspects of accounting, auditing and assurance, and other external reporting standard setting.

The XRB has two subsidiary boards, one with responsibility for accounting standard setting and the other with responsibility for auditing and assurance standard setting. The XRB Board itself is responsible for general governance of the organisation, overall financial reporting strategy (including advising the government accordingly), standards strategy, and oversight of the subsidiary boards.

The XRB's strategy aims to contribute to New Zealand's goal to create a sustainable, inclusive, and prosperous economy. High-quality information to ensure that decision making that impacts the wellbeing of New Zealand and New Zealanders are well informed is critical.

Position Purpose:

The Technical Director will have primary responsibility for maintaining the completeness of the XRB's Accounting Standards. This will involve providing leadership and oversight over the technical standard-setting activities of the Accounting Team.

The role will involve working together with the Director Accounting to ensure the activities of the Accounting Team support the achievement of the XRB broader strategic objectives.

Key aspects of the role will involve:

- Maintaining the high-quality and completeness of the XRB's Accounting Standards;
- Monitoring and managing the delivery of standard-setting projects as conducted by the Accounting Team staff;
- Promoting the reporting of trusted, relevant, informative, information through constituent engagements activities and providing thought leadership across the for-profit sector; and
- Pursuing opportunities to influence the development of international accounting standards.

From time-to-time the Technical Director may be asked to lead the delivery of specific high-priority projects acting as the Project Manager on the project – this would involve

completing research, technical analysis, constituency engagement, standard finalisation, and quality control processes.

The Technical Director role will also involve deputising for the Director Accounting Standards as required.

Specific Areas of Responsibility:

The specific responsibilities of the Technical Director are as follows:

Development of Accounting Standards

- Lead responsibility for maintaining the high-quality, completeness, and integrity of the suite of accounting standards issued by the XRB for Accounting Standards. This will primarily involve managing the standard-setting process for the issuance of new standards and maintaining existing standards.
- Managing the work of the Accounting Team as it related to the development of Accounting Standards. This will involve managing the work as conducted by staff of the Accounting Team. Project work may involve:
 - Researching technical issues;
 - Preparation of technical issue papers for consideration by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board (NZASB);
 - Development of accounting standard documents including consultation papers, exposure drafts, and standards as required by the Board;
 - Liaising with the AASB over convergence issues;
 - Developing non-authoritative guidance material to promote consistent application of accounting;
 - Overseeing the promulgation of finalised accounting standards; and
 - Such other activities as are necessary for the development and finalisation of the projects' outputs.

Supporting the delivery of the XRB's strategic objectives

Working together with the Director Accounting Standards in managing the delivery of other XRB strategic objectives, including:

- Supporting the Chief Executive of the XRB as required in the strategic leadership of the XRB;
- Contributing to the development of the XRB strategic plan, service performance measures, and financial budget information; and
- Working together with the members of the Senior Management Team to develop and promote an integrated external reporting framework for Aotearoa New Zealand that encompasses both financial and non-financial information.

Staff management

- Directing and leading the work of Accounting Team staff in relation to accounting standards projects, submissions or research assigned to them including policy development, constituency engagement, standard finalisation, and quality control aspects of that work;

- Promoting a high-performance culture across the Accounting Team through provision of proactive leadership and direction, motivation, effective performance management, recruitment, communication and coaching of staff;
- Providing technical leadership to staff and monitoring outputs in accordance with planned actions and the XRB strategic objectives; and
- Supporting the Chair of the NZASB in their role in providing leadership over the Board; and as a member of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

Influencing the International Boards

- Managing the preparation of submissions to international standard setting bodies on exposure drafts issued by them and/or matters of importance to financial reporting in New Zealand;
- Liaising with international standard setting bodies in areas of importance to financial reporting in New Zealand; and
- Participating in relevant international fora and groupings including those involving national standard-setters as applicable.

Constituent engagement

- Managing constituency consultation processes, including key stakeholder engagement;
- Liaising with relevant groups within the New Zealand constituency including making presentations and otherwise communicating the NZASB's position on issues as appropriate; and
- Working with the XRB Communications and Engagement Team to manage communication strategies to promote constituent feedback on accounting standards projects.

Thought leadership

- Promoting research and thought leadership on financial accounting issues relevant to general purpose financial reporting.

Person Specification:

Qualifications

- Relevant tertiary qualification.
- Chartered Accountant, CPA or equivalent.

Experience

- Knowledge and experience of current accounting theory and practice in New Zealand is essential and it is desirable that the knowledge and experience covers both for profit entities and public benefit entities.
- Practical standard setting experience is desirable.
- Relevant staff management experience.
- Relevant project management experience.

Attributes

- An understanding of, and commitment to, the role of accounting standards.
- A commitment to maintaining high-quality accounting standards.
- A focus on future financial reporting developments to ensure the accounting standards and frameworks remain relevant and continue to meet user needs.
- A focus in promoting external reporting that will enable the highest quality decision making for resource allocation for the benefit of Aotearoa New Zealand and New Zealanders.
- Strong organisational and project management skills including an ability to meet timelines.
- Results-oriented with a commitment to the highest standards of organisational performance.
- Excellent written, oral and presentation communication skills including the ability to consistently present a confident, credible, and positive image of the organisation to all stakeholders.
- Strong relationship management skills including an ability to build trust across all sectors of the financial reporting community.
- Strong staff management and leadership skills including the ability to grow and maintain a high performing team.
- A commitment to the ethos and values of the public sector, including individual ethical behaviour, value for money in the use of resources, and being an equal opportunity employer.