

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OBLIGATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

The University of Melbourne's obligations regarding public disclosure of slavery, human trafficking, and child labour are primarily driven by the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (Cth) in Australia. Under this legislation, the University is required to perform the activities described at **A-D** below, and undertakes voluntary initiatives described at **E** below.

A. Prepare and Publish an Annual Modern Slavery Statement

The Modern Slavery Act mandates organizations, including the University of Melbourne, to submit an annual Modern Slavery Statement if their consolidated revenue exceeds AUD 100 million. (The statement must include:

- **Identification of Risks:** explanation of the modern slavery risks present within the University's operations and supply chains.
- **Actions Taken:** details of the measures implemented to identify, assess, and mitigate these risks. This may involve due diligence, supplier assessments, and training.
- **Effectiveness Evaluation:** methods used to evaluate the effectiveness of the measures in combating modern slavery.
- **Governance and Policies:** information about governance structures, relevant policies, and any grievance mechanisms available for addressing slavery-related concerns.)

B. Submission to the Australian Government

The Modern Slavery Statement must be submitted to the Australian Border Force (ABF) via the online Modern Slavery Register, where it is made publicly accessible.

C. Public Accessibility

The University must ensure that the statement is publicly available, typically by publishing it on its official website. This enhances accountability and transparency for stakeholders, including students, staff, suppliers, and the broader community.

D. Compliance with Other Regulatory Frameworks (if applicable)

The University may also be subject to obligations under additional regulations, depending on specific operations or partnerships. For instance:

- **Adherence to international labour standards** (eg the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights) may be relevant if the University engages in international activities.
- **Compliance with sector-specific procurement policies or frameworks** that address labour and human rights.

E. Voluntary Efforts to Complement Obligations

While the Modern Slavery Act outlines minimum disclosure requirements, the University often undertakes voluntary initiatives, such as:

- **Collaborative Projects:** participation in initiatives like the Australian Universities Procurement Network (AUPN) to develop sector-wide approaches for identifying and addressing modern slavery risks (see section 6 of the [2024 Modern Slavery Statement](#)).
- **Research and Publications:** academic contributions that explore human trafficking, modern slavery, and related topics, contributing to public awareness and policy development (for example, [Segrave, M. Human Trafficking \(2016\)](#)).
- **Educational Programs:** integration of human rights topics, including modern slavery, into curricula to educate students and the broader community.

These voluntary efforts demonstrate the University's commitment to enhancing transparency and actively contributing to the global fight against modern slavery.