



Changes to 2026 Financial Statements



The better the question. The better the answer. The better the world works.



Shape the future
with confidence

The 2026 financial statements will soon be prepared, and most of the changes for 2026 and beyond are known now. Good preparation is half the work, which is why this publication sets out the most important new provisions for the 2026 financial statements.

For specific references to the new regulations, please refer to the overview at the end of this article.

This article does not discuss changes that apply to specific sectors.

Financial statements prepared under EU-IFRS in combination with Title 9, Book 2 DCC

This change is relevant to legal entities that prepare their consolidated and/or separate financial statements under EU-IFRS. All paragraphs in the DAS that are relevant in addition to the application of EU-IFRS have been transferred to the new DAS 105 “Financial statements prepared under EU-IFRS in combination with Title 9, Book 2 DCC”.

In addition to this transfer to DAS 105, the DASB has added nuances to two topics:

- events after the reporting period; and
- disclosure of the average number of employees.

Events after the reporting period

The DAS previously stated that a legal entity applying combination 3 or 4 should recognize only those effects of events after the reporting period that become apparent up to the date on which the financial statements are prepared, the “date of authorization for issue”.

It explicitly stated that the effects of events becoming apparent after preparation of the financial statements but providing further information about the actual situation at the reporting date, were not recognized. This required some nuance. Under Article 2:362(6) DCC, events that become apparent after preparation of the financial statements but before their adoption are recognized in the financial statements to the extent essential to providing a true and fair view. EU-IFRS does not address the period between preparation and adoption of the financial statements. If this situation occurs, management may decide to prepare the financial statements again, taking the effects of these events into account. Listed legal entities must also comply with article 5:25c(7) of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act. This article requires a listed legal entity to immediately publish a notice if new facts or circumstances become known after the financial statements have been made generally available but before their adoption.

Disclosure of the average number of employees

Article 2:362(9) DCC declares certain articles and divisions of Title 9, Book 2 DCC applicable when financial statements are prepared under EU-IFRS. This is particularly relevant when the separate financial statements are prepared under EU-IFRS or when both the separate and consolidated financial statements are prepared under EU-IFRS. In practice, views differ as to whether the disclosure requirement concerning the average number of employees under article 2:382 DCC also applies to consolidated financial statements prepared under EU-IFRS. The DASB considers that it does, because this disclosure requirement is relevant not only to separate financial statements but also to consolidated financial statements. This has now been clarified in the DAS.

Events after the reporting period: classification of preference dividends

The amendment to DAS 160 “Events after the reporting period” clarifies that preference dividends are recognized as a liability at the reporting date when sufficient distributable equity is available and distribution is mandatory under the articles of association.

The DASB has clarified that compliance with the statutory distribution test must be assessed. This means that if the financial statements show sufficient retained earnings, it may initially appear that sufficient distributable equity is available. Under Dutch law, however, management must also perform the distribution test, considering the expected liquidity and solvency position after the distribution. If management concludes that the company will no longer be able to continue paying its debts after payment of the preference dividend, distribution of the preference dividend is not permitted, even if the financial statements appear to indicate otherwise. In that case, no liability is recognized at the reporting date.

Major maintenance costs

The clarification in DAS 212 “Property, plant and equipment” concerns the accounting for changes in the estimated costs or timing of major maintenance when a provision for major maintenance is used. Such changes qualify as a change in estimate.

This may occur when major maintenance must be performed earlier than expected or costs more than anticipated, changing the timing or amount of the provision.

In practice, the effect is recognized prospectively over the remaining accrual period of the provision, and future expenses in the profit and loss statement are adjusted accordingly. No retrospective catch-up adjustments are recognized for prior periods. This treatment is consistent with the general accounting for changes in estimates.

Example:

- The total estimated major maintenance costs are: 1,000.
- The accrual period is five years.
- The annual expense to be recognized in the profit and loss statement is 200.
- After two years, the estimated major maintenance costs increase to 1,200.

The change is accounted for as follows:

Year	Initial estimate of provision	Revised estimate of provision
1	200	200
2	400	400
3	600	667*
4	800	934
5	1,000	1,200

- $1,200 - 400 = 800$ provision still to be accrued.
- $800 / 3 = 267$ annual expense in the profit and loss statement for the remaining three years.
- This means that at the end of year 3, the provision must be $400 + 267 = 667$.

Financial fixed assets: transition from cost to net asset value

If the investing legal entity initially measured the investment at cost or current value and subsequently obtains significant influence over the investee’s operating and financial policies, the net asset value method must be applied from that point onwards (DAS 214.401). This means that the net asset value of the entire investment must be determined at that time.

The DASB has clarified the accounting for the difference between the net asset value and the previous carrying amount of the interest already held, as follows:

- To the extent that the increase in value of the investment arises from revaluations by the investee, unrealized revaluations arising after acquisition must be recognized, in accordance with the investing legal entity’s accounting policies, in a revaluation reserve or a statutory reserve for investments.
- To the extent that the increase in value of the investment arises from undistributed profits earned by the investee after acquisition, those undistributed profits must be recognized, in accordance with the investing legal entity’s accounting policies, in a legal reserve for investments, to the extent that those profits cannot be distributed without restriction.
- To the extent that the increase in value need not be recognized in a revaluation reserve and/or legal reserve for investments, it must be recognized in other reserves (DAS 214.510).

Inventories: disclosure

A clarification in DAS 220 “Inventories” concerns disclosure of the costs of inventories recognized as an expense in the profit and loss statement. In practice, it was unclear what exactly had to be disclosed. The DASB has therefore clarified the scope of the disclosure and how the relevant amount must be determined.

The amount to be disclosed comprises costs that were previously included in the measurement of inventories and were subsequently recognized as an expense in the profit and loss statement through sale. Although this closely resembles cost of sales, it is not the same. Cost of sales may also include items such as unallocated production overheads or abnormal production costs.

The DASB’s clarification prevents the amount to be disclosed from automatically being equated with cost of sales. This disclosure applies only to large legal entities. Medium-sized legal entities are exempt from this disclosure.

Purchase of treasury shares

As part of making the DAS more accessible, the DASB has rewritten DAS 240 “Equity”. It has also clarified the provisions governing the accounting for purchases of treasury shares. The acquisition price or carrying amount of purchased treasury shares is deducted from unrestricted reserves or reserves required by the articles of association, provided that the articles permit this. The wording of DAS 240.214 in the 2025 annual edition could have suggested that the acquisition price or carrying amount could also be deducted from legal reserves, which is not the case.

Liabilities: covenant breaches and classification of non-current liabilities

The DASB has clarified the circumstances in which non-current loans for which a covenant breach exists at or before the reporting date may nevertheless be classified as non-current.

If a covenant breach exists at the reporting date, the general rule is that the loan is classified as current. However, if a waiver has been obtained at or before the reporting date, or a cure period of more than twelve months has been agreed, the loan remains classified as non-current.

If agreement with the lender is reached only after the reporting date, there is an accounting policy choice regarding classification: the loan may be classified as either current or non-current. If non-current classification is selected, this choice must be disclosed in the notes.

Finally, if a covenant breach occurs during the financial year or in the period between the reporting date and preparation of the financial statements, or if the covenants are only narrowly met, this must be disclosed. The principal terms, the relevant provisions and the related amount must also be disclosed.

Deferred tax on the initial recognition of certain assets and/or liabilities

DASB Statement 2025-2 is relevant to a legal entity that acquires an asset and/or liability in a transaction in which the cost differs from the amount deductible for tax purposes and that is not an acquisition to which DAS 216 “Mergers and acquisitions” applies.

Examples include transactions in which the shares of a company are acquired and that company comprises only one or a limited number of assets, without there being an integrated set of activities, assets and/or liabilities capable of generating income. An example is a property company. For tax purposes, the historical tax carrying amount is sometimes carried forward in this situation, while the excess amount paid for the shares is not tax-deductible.

Under IFRS (IAS 12.15 and IAS 12.24), a mandatory exception applies to the recognition of deferred tax for temporary differences in these situations, referred to as the “initial recognition exception” or IRE. This exception has now been explicitly incorporated into DAS 272 “Income taxes”, but entities are not required to apply it. In other words, entities may still recognize deferred tax for such temporary differences, provided that these differences will result in tax payable or recoverable in future periods when the asset or liability is realized or settled. On initial recognition of the asset or assets, this may not result in the recognition of income or expense.

Interest costs

The key message of the amendment to DAS 273 “Interest costs” is that early payment discounts in customer contracts are no longer addressed in DAS 273. This improves consistency, as the accounting for early payment discounts is already included in DAS 270 “Profit and Loss Statement”. When assessing early payment discounts, the first step is to determine whether there is a significant financing component. If so, the transaction price is adjusted for the time value of money.

If there is no significant financing component, the early payment discount is treated as variable consideration.

In practice, if a substantial proportion of customers, for example 40%, is expected to pay early and therefore qualify for the discount, the estimated discount is reflected directly in the transaction price, resulting in lower revenue. This avoids initially recognising a higher amount of revenue that may have to be reversed later.

Share-based payments: restriction of the exemption and transitional provisions

The DAS bundle 2026 includes a change to the scope of the exemption in DAS 275. The exemption may now only be applied to share-based payments that are settled by a person or entity that is not included in the legal entity’s consolidation group.

This affects clients that apply the exemption because an entity outside the legal entity’s group initiated the share-based plan, while the legal entity or its group remains responsible for settling the arrangement. If such arrangements have not been amended, the legal entity may no longer apply the exemption. The share-based payment must then be accounted for in accordance with DAS 275.

The DASB considers that share-based payments settled by the legal entity must always be accounted for in accordance with DAS 275. According to the DASB, the fact that a share-based payment was initiated by a person or entity outside the legal entity’s consolidation group is no longer sufficient grounds for applying the exemption if the plan is still settled by the legal entity itself.

To mitigate the effects of restricting the exemption, the DASB has introduced transitional provisions. These apply to ongoing arrangements that, at 1 January 2026, meet the revised exemption and also met the former exemption included in the 2025 annual edition of the DAS volume. For these arrangements, the financial effect of the change in accounting policy need not be recognized in the comparative figures. In other cases, the comparative figures must be adjusted.

Disclosure of assurance engagement fees for sustainability reporting

The clarification in DAS 390 “Other information in the notes” concerns how the total fee for the assurance engagement relating to sustainability reporting must be disclosed. Entities may choose to disclose this fee separately or include it in the total fees for other assurance engagements.

If an entity chooses to include the fee in the total fees for other assurance engagements, the DASB recommends using the description “total fees for other assurance engagements”, because work relating to sustainability reporting is an assurance engagement rather than an audit engagement. The terminology should therefore reflect the nature of the service provided.

New regulation	Location of the new regulation
Financial statements prepared under EU-IFRS in combination with Title 9, Book 2 DCC*	DAS 105
Events after the reporting period: classification of preference dividends	DAS 160
Major maintenance costs	DAS 212
Financial fixed assets: transition from cost to net asset value	DAS 214
Inventories: disclosure	DAS 221
Purchase of treasury shares	DAS 240
Liabilities: covenant breaches and classification of long-term liabilities	DAS 254
Deferred tax on the initial recognition of certain assets and/or liabilities	DAS 272
Interest costs	DAS 273
Share-based payments: restriction of the exemption and transitional provisions	DAS 275
Disclosure of assurance engagement fees for sustainability reporting	DAS 390
Changes arising from amendments to the Education Reporting Regulations (Rjo)	DASB Statement 2025-6; DAS 660 final standard

EY | Building a better working world

EY is building a better working world by creating new value for clients, people, society and the planet, while building trust in capital markets.

Enabled by data, AI and advanced technology, EY teams help clients shape the future with confidence and develop answers for the most pressing issues of today and tomorrow.

EY teams work across a full spectrum of services in assurance, consulting, tax, strategy and transactions. Fueled by sector insights, a globally connected, multi-disciplinary network and diverse ecosystem partners, EY teams can provide services in more than 150 countries and territories.

All in to shape the future with confidence.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. Information about how EY collects and uses personal data and a description of the rights individuals have under data protection legislation are available via ey.com/privacy. EY member firms do not practice law where prohibited by local laws. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

© 2026 EY Accountants B.V.
All Rights Reserved.

ED none.

This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as accounting, tax, legal or other professional advice. Please refer to your advisors for specific advice.

ey.com