



Certified Nonprofit Professional Code of Ethics

The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance's mission is to strengthen the social sector with a talented, prepared workforce. The Certified Nonprofit Professional credential recognizes individuals who have completed the requirements, including competency related coursework, professional experience, service and leadership experience, national conference attendance, and completion of a baccalaureate degree.

This Code of Ethics sets forth principles that underlie the professional responsibilities and conduct of Certified Nonprofit Professionals. The principles provide guidance on issues that CNPs may encounter in their professional work.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. Demonstrate Personal and Professional Integrity

- a. Promote and exhibit honesty, fairness, and respect in all interactions with colleagues, volunteers, service recipients/clients, students, and other stakeholders.
- b. Exhibit professional conduct at all times, avoiding any perception of misconduct.
- c. Respect the rights of individuals to privacy, confidentiality, and self-determination.

2. Strive for Professional Excellence

- a. Exemplify competence, quality standards, and credibility within the profession.
- b. Develop and enhance professional expertise through continuous learning and development.
- c. Promote learning and growth of others and contribute to the knowledge base of the profession.

3. Build Public Trust through Transparency and Accountability

- a. Commit to full disclosure of information and transparency in interactions, as appropriate.
- b. Act as a responsible steward of resources for the public good.
- c. Adhere to the highest standards of ethics, conduct, and service to inspire public confidence and trust in the nonprofit sector.

4. Promote Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- a. Respect the worth and dignity of all individuals.
- b. Develop programs and activities that are inclusive for all students and stakeholders.
- c. Foster cultural diversity and respect the pluralistic nature of societal values, striving to eliminate biases and prejudices in all interactions.

5. Enhance Quality of Life

- a. Develop optimal human potential in each encounter and activity.
- b. Utilize professional knowledge to improve the lives of individuals, the efficiency and effectiveness of organizations, and the well-being of society as a whole.
- c. Initiate and engage in activities that empower individuals and/or communities.

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