

WKEXP 903 WORK TERM REPORT

Ethics and the Engineering Profession



Engineering Co-op Program
University of Alberta

PURPOSE

This assignment will serve as an introduction to the significance of ethics in the engineering profession. As a student enrolled in a full-time engineering program at the University of Alberta, you are a student member of The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA), and are bound by the Code of Ethics of the Association and the Guideline for Ethical Practice for the Association. Learning to apply the Code of Ethics in your decision making and internalizing the guidelines is part of your training as an engineer.

FORMAT

Your report must include a formal introduction, a body of analysis as described in **Assignment** below, and a conclusion.

Length: 4-5 pages, typed & double spaced. Number all pages, not including the cover page. *Cover and reference pages do not count toward the report length.*

Font: 12pt; Calibri, Arial or Times New Roman

Margins: 1"

Cover Page, clearly indicating:

- Student name
- ID number
- Work term
- Discipline
- The name of the coordinator who conducted your onsite evaluation.

Reference Page: For reference formatting guidelines, visit <http://guides.library.ualberta.ca/citing>.

ASSIGNMENT

The APEGA Code of Ethics is not simply a resource or set of guidelines that is pulled off the shelf and referenced when analyzing a problematic situation. The Code of Ethics is critical to the privilege and responsibility of APEGA's self-governance and guides the entire profession of engineering. For the new engineer the development of good judgment based on ethics, values, and standards is imperative. The Code of Ethics is internalized by engineers and becomes part of their daily professional practice.

Before writing this assignment you must:

- Review the Guideline for Ethical Practice, including the Code of Ethics. This document is available at: <http://www.apega.ca/assets/PDFs/ethical-practice.pdf>.
- Meet with a P. Eng. at your current or previous workplace to talk about situations where ethics are involved in the decision making process (i.e.: situations they can share with you)

Describe in detail one situation in which applicable section(s) of the code of ethics would apply. Ideally the situation would be one that had been identified in your discussion with the Engineer, or an actual event from your past or current workplace. Ensure confidentiality is maintained by changing the names of the parties and employer(s) involved.

This scenario must present an ethical dilemma where there is no obvious choice or simple solution. The objective is to demonstrate that ethical challenges present themselves to engineers who must rely on the code of ethics in their decision making processes.

Provide an analysis of how the relevant aspects the code would apply to the situation. Describe the actions that you and/or the engineers involved in the incident would take, and the consequences of the choices and decisions made.

Finally, using this information, present an analysis of the impact the code of ethics can have on the conduct of engineering professionals in their work, including APEGA's potential involvement.

DEADLINES

Your paper is due one month prior to the end of your work term:

Work Term	Due Date
Winter	March 31
Summer	July 31
Fall	November 30

SUBMISSION

Reports may be submitted by email or in person, to the Coordinator that conducts your on-site visit or to the Engineering Co-op Office.

Late assignments will not be accepted and may result in a grade of FAIL.

EVALUATION

Your coordinator will grade your paper and send the evaluation to you via email.

REMINDER: PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS

Please remind your supervisor to complete and return your performance evaluation to us in order for you to be granted credit for the work term.

Evaluation forms are available on the co-op website at:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/engineering/study-with-us/co-op/students/evaluation-forms>