#### IEEE Code of Ethics

Ethical Principles for Engineers and Technologists

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#### Introduction

What is IEEE?

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

Why ethics matter in engineering?

- Technology affects quality of life
- Responsibility towards society

#### Overview of the Code

Adopted: June 2020

Structure:

- 3 Core Ethical Duties
- 10 Guiding Principles

Purpose:

- Guide ethical behavior in professional activities

# Section I – Integrity & Responsible Conduct

- Core duty: Uphold highest standards of integrity
- Applies to all professional activities
- Includes safety, privacy, and sustainability

- Hold paramount: Public safety, health, welfare
- Comply with: Ethical design, sustainable development
- Disclose: Risks to public/environment
- Discussion: Can you think of a case where failing to disclose a risk caused harm?

- Promote public understanding of technology
- Discuss societal implications of emerging tech (Al, robotics)
- Example: How should we educate society about Al biases?

- Avoid conflicts of interest
- If unavoidable, disclose them
- Case study: A developer recommending tools they profit from.

- Avoid unlawful conduct
- Reject bribery in all forms
- Example: Vendor bribes in procurement what to do?

- Accept and offer honest criticism
- Correct errors, be realistic, credit others
- Example: Plagiarism in technical papers

- Maintain technical competence
- Only undertake tasks if qualified
- Ethical risk of faking expertise or overpromising

# Section II – Respect & Fairness

- Treat all people with fairness and respect
- Avoid harassment, discrimination, and harm

- No discrimination by race, religion, gender, etc.
- Respect diversity and inclusion
- Group activity: Recognizing unconscious bias

- No harassment or bullying
- Includes sexual harassment
- O Case scenario: Handling misconduct in teams

- Don't injure others' reputation, employment, or property
- Avoid false claims, rumors, or verbal abuse
- Social media and professional reputation boundaries?

# Section III – Upholding the Code

- Ethical responsibility to support the code
- Promote it among peers
- Do not retaliate against whistleblowers

- Encourage ethical behavior in peers
- Report violations
- Protect those who report unethical conduct
- Whistleblower protection and courage to speak up

#### Summary of Key Principles

- Safety, honesty, respect
- Competence, transparency
- Inclusion, accountability
- Remember: Ethics is not just knowing the rules it's doing the right thing.

#### Applications in Real Life

- Ethics in:
- Software development
- Data privacy
- Al & Robotics
- Environmental engineering

#### Group Discussion / Activity

- Divide into groups
- Choose a principle and discuss a real-world ethical dilemma
- Present findings

#### Conclusion

- IEEE Code is a living guide
- Engineers must lead with ethics
- Uphold trust in technology

#### References

- IEEE Code of Ethics (June 2020)
- www.ieee.org
- Additional ethical guidelines (ACM, NSPE, etc.)