

Code of ethics

Code of Ethics

Merriam Webster Dictionary

Definition of code of ethics:

A set of rules about good and bad behavior

- A code of practice is adopted by a profession or by a governmental or non-governmental organization to regulate that profession.
- A code of practice may be styled as a code of [professional responsibility](#), which will discuss difficult issues, difficult decisions that will often need to be made, and provide a clear account of what behavior is considered "ethical" or "correct" or "right" in the circumstances.

- Ethical codes are adopted by organizations to assist members in understanding the difference between right and wrong and in applying that understanding to their decisions.
- An ethical code generally implies documents at three levels:
 - ❖ codes of business ethics,
 - ❖ codes of conduct for employees,
 - ❖ codes of professional practice.

- Many companies use the phrases *ethical code* and *code of conduct* interchangeably but it may be useful to make a distinction. A code of [ethics](#) will start by setting out the values that underpin the code and will describe a company's obligation to its stakeholders.
- However, a code of conduct is generally addressed to and intended for employees alone. It usually sets out restrictions on behavior, and will be far more compliance or rules focused than value or principle focused.

Fourth Estate's Journalism Code of Practice

- "Accuracy: Accuracy, more-so than exclusivity or timeliness, is the overriding value of journalism."
- "Independence: Independence from state control, business interests, market forces, or any other vested interest or outside pressure is a hallmark of dispassionate, critical, and reliable journalism. It bolsters legitimacy and credibility in the eyes of the public."
- "Impartiality: Impartiality means not being prejudiced towards or against any particular ideology, idea, or preconception. Impartiality requires fairness and balance that follows the weight of evidence: it allows the journalist to make sense of events through dispassionate analysis of all relevant facts and perspectives."
- "Integrity: Integrity in journalism ensures that people and organizations uphold the values of journalism, always strive to do the right thing in all situations, even to their personal or organizational detriment, and put their obligations to the public first."

Fourth Estate's Journalism Code of Practice- cont

- "Harm Minimization: Journalists must always remember that they are dealing with human lives. The potential for public good must sufficiently outweigh the potential for harm that may come from the activity of journalism."
- "Engagement: Engagement with the public ensures that journalism remains open, accessible, collaborative, and participatory while keeping the journalist accountable to the highest standards of accuracy, independence, impartiality, and integrity."
- "Accountability: Accountability is essential to the ethical practice of journalism and the maintenance of the public trust. Being accountable for news-gathering practices and reporting means making firm commitments and taking responsibility for your journalism and the journalism of your peers."

PRSA (*Public Relations Society of America*)

Code of Ethics

- "Loyalty: We are faithful to those we represent, while honoring our obligation to serve the public interest."
- "Fairness: We deal fairly with clients, employers, competitors, peers, vendors, the media, and the general public. We respect all opinions and support the right of free expression."

SPJ (*Society of Professional Journalists*) Code of Ethics

- "Minimize Harm ... Balance the public's need for information against potential harm or discomfort. Pursuit of the news is not a license for arrogance or undue intrusiveness. ... Balance a suspect's right to a fair trial with the public's right to know. Consider the implications of identifying criminal suspects before they face legal charges. ..."
- "Act Independently ... Avoid conflicts of interest, real or perceived. Disclose unavoidable conflicts."

Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief

Principle Commitments of the Code:

- The [humanitarian imperative](#) comes first;
- Aid is given regardless of the race, creed or nationality of the recipients and without adverse distinction of any kind. Aid priorities are calculated on the basis of need alone;
- Aid will not be used to further a particular political or religious standpoint;
- We shall endeavor not to be used as an instrument of government foreign policy;
- We shall respect culture and custom;
- We shall attempt to build disaster response on local capacities;
- Ways shall be found to involve program beneficiaries in the management of relief aid;
- Relief aid must strive to reduce vulnerabilities to future disaster as well as meeting basic needs;
- We hold ourselves accountable to both those we seek to assist and those from whom we accept resources;
- In our information, publicity and advertising activities, we shall recognize disaster victims as dignified human beings, not hopeless objects.

- A data scientist shall provide competent data science professional services to a client. Competent data science professional services requires the knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary for the services.
- *<https://www.datascienceassn.org/code-of-conduct.html>*

Data Science Code of professional Conduct

- Rule 1 - Terminology
- Rule 2 - Competence
- Rule 3 - Scope of Data Science Professional Services Between Client and Data Scientist
- Rule 4 - Communication with Clients
- Rule 5 - Confidential Information
- Rule 6 - Conflicts of Interest
- Rule 7 - Duties to Prospective Client
- Rule 8 - Data Science Evidence, Quality of Data and Quality of Evidence
- Rule 9 - Misconduct

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- (a) Subject to paragraphs (b), a data scientist shall abide by a client's decisions concerning objectives of the services and shall consult with the client as to the means by which they are to be pursued. A data scientist may take such action on behalf of the client as is impliedly authorized to carry out data science professional services.
- (b) A data scientist shall not counsel a client to engage, or assist a client, in conduct that the data scientist knows is criminal or fraudulent, but a data scientist may discuss the consequences of any proposed course of conduct with a client and may counsel or assist a client to make a good faith effort to determine the validity, scope, meaning or application of the data science provided.

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Confidential Information

- (a) The data scientist has a professional duty to protect all confidential information, regardless of its form or format, from the time of its creation or receipt until its authorized disposal.
- (b) Protecting this information is critical to a data scientists reputation for integrity and relationship with clients, and ensures compliance with laws and regulations governing the client's industry.
- (c) A data scientist shall protect all confidential information, regardless of its form or format, from the time of its creation or receipt until its authorized disposal.
- (d) A data scientist shall not reveal information relating to the representation of a client unless the client gives informed consent, the disclosure is impliedly authorized in order to carry out the representation or the disclosure is permitted by paragraph (e).

Confidential Information-cont

- (e) A data scientist may reveal information relating to the representation of a client to the extent the data scientist reasonably believes necessary
- (f) A data scientist shall make reasonable efforts to prevent the inadvertent or unauthorized disclosure of, or unauthorized access to, information relating to the representation of a client.
- (g) A data scientist shall comply with client policies that apply to the acceptance, proper use and handling of confidential information, as well as any written agreements between the data scientist and the client relating to confidential information.
- (h) A data scientist shall protect client confidential information after termination of work for the client.
- (i) A data scientist shall return any and all confidential information in possession or control upon termination of the data scientist - client relationship and, if requested, execute an affidavit affirming compliance with obligations relating to confidential information.

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- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), a data scientist shall not provide professional data science services for a client if the services involves a concurrent conflict of interest. A concurrent conflict of interest exists if:
 - providing services for one client will be directly adverse to another client; or
 - there is a significant risk that providing professional data science services for one or more clients will be materially limited by the data scientist's responsibilities to another client, a former client or a third person or by a personal interest of the data scientist.
- (b) Notwithstanding the existence of a concurrent conflict of interest under paragraph (a), a data scientist may represent a client if: