### **Association for Computing in Machinery (ACM) Code of Ethics**

**1. INTRODUCTION :**The ACM Code of Ethics serves as a compass for computing professionals, guiding them to act responsibly and consider the broader impact of their work on society. It functions as a comprehensive manual for individuals across all levels of expertise in the computing field, ranging from students to seasoned professionals. This code is centered on prioritizing the public good and provides guidelines and advice for upholding ethical standards. It covers fundamental moral principles, specific duties within various roles, and the responsibilities of leadership. Adhering to the Code is imperative for members of the ACM and recipients of awards associated with the organization. Although it doesn't offer precise solutions to ethical dilemmas, it fosters critical thinking about ethical principles and encourages open discussions. This transparency ensures accountability and promotes fairness and clarity in decision-making processes.

[**2. GENERAL ETHICAL PRINCIPLES.**](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.-general-ethical-principles.)

* [1.1 Contribute to society and to human well-being, acknowledging that all people are stakeholders in computing.](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.1-contribute-to-society-and-to-human-well-being,-acknowledging-that-all-people-are-stakeholders-in-computing.)
* [1.2 Avoid harm.](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.2-avoid-harm.)
* [1.3 Be honest and trustworthy.](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.3-be-honest-and-trustworthy.)
* [1.4 Be fair and take action not to discriminate.](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.4-be-fair-and-take-action-not-to-discriminate.)
* [1.5 Respect the work required to produce new ideas, inventions, creative works, and computing artifacts.](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.5-respect-the-work-required-to-produce-new-ideas,-inventions,-creative-works,-and-computing-artifacts.)
* [1.6 Respect privacy.](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.6-respect-privacy.)
* [1.7 Honor confidentiality.](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.7-honor-confidentiality.)

**3. SHORT DESCRIPTION OF EACH GENERAL ETHICAL PRINCIPLES**[**Contribute to society and to human well-being, acknowledging that all people are stakeholders in computing.**](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.1-contribute-to-society-and-to-human-well-being,-acknowledging-that-all-people-are-stakeholders-in-computing.)

This rule says that people who work with computers should use their skills to help others and take care of the environment. They need to think about how their work affects people's lives and rights. They should try to make sure that technology doesn't cause any harm, like making people sick or invading their privacy. If there are problems, they should focus on helping those who need it the most.

They should also think about whether their work is fair, helps society, and is easy for everyone to use. It's good for them to do volunteer work to help others. And they should also think about how their work affects the environment and try to make it better, both locally and globally.

[**Avoid harm.**](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.2-avoid-harm.)

In simple terms, "avoid harm" means trying to prevent bad things from happening, especially when they're unfair. Harm could be physical or mental injury, damaging someone's things, or hurting them. Even if someone didn't mean to cause harm, they should try to fix it as much as they can. To avoid harm, people who work with computers should think about how their choices might affect others and try to be careful. They should follow the usual rules in their field and make sure they're right before they do. Overall, this section reminds people who work with computers to be careful and try to do the right thing.

[**Be honest and trustworthy.**](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.3-be-honest-and-trustworthy.)

We can say honesty is important for trust. People who work with computers should be open and tell the truth about what their systems can and can't do, as well as any potential problems. It's not okay to lie or hide important information, like making false claims or faking data. They should also be honest about their own skills and any conflicts of interest. They need to stick to their promises and not pretend to speak for a company unless they're allowed to. Being honest builds trust and keeps things fair.

[**Be fair and take action not to discriminate.**](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.4-be-fair-and-take-action-not-to-discriminate.)

This principle is all about being fair and treating everyone equally. It means respecting others, regardless of things like age, gender, or religion. Discrimination or unfair treatment of any kind, like bullying or harassment, is not okay. People who work with computers should make sure their technology is fair and accessible to everyone. They should take steps to avoid creating systems that make some people feel left out or treated unfairly. Being fair means giving everyone a fair chance and making sure no one is left behind.

[**Respect the work required to produce new ideas, inventions, creative works, and computing artifacts.**](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.5-respect-the-work-required-to-produce-new-ideas,-inventions,-creative-works,-and-computing-artifacts.)

When people come up with new ideas or create things, they should get credit for it. This means acknowledging who came up with the idea or made something, and respecting their rights to it, like copyrights or patents. Sometimes, though, it's okay to use someone else's work if it's for the greater good, like helping society. This could include things like sharing software for free or putting work into the public domain. It's important not to claim something as your own if it belongs to everyone.

[**Respect privacy.**](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.6-respect-privacy.)

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[**Honor confidentiality.**](https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics#h-1.7-honor-confidentiality.)

People who work with computers often know private stuff, like secrets or financial details. They should keep this information safe, unless it shows someone broke the law, or the rules of their company, or the Code of Ethics. If that happens, they might need to tell the right people, but only if it's okay according to the Code. Otherwise, they should keep it private.

**4. CLASSIFY EACH PRINCIPLE AS ADDRESSING ETHICAL, PRIVACY OR SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUE ( If more than one applies, then explain )**

| **S.NO** | **PRINCIPLE** | **CLASSIFICATION** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Contribute to society and to human well being | Social justice |
| 2 | Avoid harm | Ethical |
| 3 | Be honesty and trustworthy | Ethical |
| 4 | Be fair and take action | EthicalSocial justice |
| 5 | Respect the work required to produce new ideas, inventions | Ethical |
| 6 | Respect privacy | Privacy |
| 7 | Honor confidentiality | EthicalPrivacy |

Be Fair and Take Action Not to Discriminate : This principle emphasizes both ethical and social justice. This rule is about treating everyone equally and being fair. It means giving everyone a fair chance and making sure nobody gets treated unfairly because of things like their race or gender. It's important to include everyone and make sure the computing field is diverse and fair for everyone.

Honor Confidentiality : This principle emphasizes both ethical and privacy. This rule is mostly about keeping secrets and being trustworthy. It's important to keep private information safe and not share it with others unless it's really necessary. Respecting people's privacy and keeping their information safe builds trust and makes sure everyone feels respected in the computing world.

**5. CONCLUSION :**

The ACM Code of Ethics is like a guide for people who work with computers. It tells us how to do our job well and how to treat others. By following these rules, we can make sure that our work helps people and doesn't hurt anyone. We learn to be fair, honest, and respectful to everyone. This way, we can use technology in a way that makes the world better for everyone.