



Prevention Practitioners (CPP/CPS) Canon of Ethical Principles

The CPP and CPS must:

1. Recognize that the profession is founded on national standards of competence which promote the best interest of society, the service recipient, the professional and the profession as a whole.
2. Do no harm to service recipients. Practices shall be respectful and non-exploitative. Services shall protect the recipients from harm and the professional and the profession from censure.
3. Maintain an objective, non-possessive relationship with those they serve and shall not exploit them sexually, financially or emotionally.
4. Not promote personal gain or profit.
5. Not discriminate against service recipients or colleagues based on race, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, economic condition or physical or mental disability. The CPP and CPS shall broaden his/her understanding and acceptance of cultural and individual differences and, in so doing, render services and provide information sensitive to those differences.
6. Observe the profession's technical and ethical standards, strive continually to improve personal competence and quality of service delivery and discharge professional responsibility to the best of his/her ability.
7. Be diligent in discharging responsibilities by rendering services carefully and promptly by being thorough and by observing applicable technical and ethical standards.
8. Adequately plan and supervise any professional activity for which he/she is responsible.
9. Recognize limitations and boundaries of competencies and not use techniques or offer services outside of his/her own competencies. The CPP and CPS is responsible for assessing the adequacy of his/her own competence for the responsibility to be assumed.
10. Report to the appropriate authorities any unethical conduct or practice on the part of any agency or individual providing prevention services when aware of such conduct or practice. The CPP and CPS must not participate in the filing of ethics complaints that are frivolous or have a purpose other than to protect the public.
11. Perform all professional responsibilities with the highest sense of integrity in order to maintain and broaden public confidence. Integrity can accommodate the inadvertent error and the honest difference of opinion. It cannot accommodate the deceit or subordination of principle.
12. Not subordinate services and the public trust for personal gain and advantage. Services, including referrals, shall be based in the best interest of the recipient(s). All information shall be presented fairly and accurately. The CPP and CPS shall document and assign credit to all contributing sources used in published material or public statements.
13. Not misrepresent, either directly or by implication, professional qualifications or affiliations.

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14. Not be associated, directly or indirectly, with any services or products in any way that are misleading or incorrect.
15. Report any evidence of child abuse to the appropriate agency and follow up to ensure that appropriate action has been taken.
16. Be supportive of assistance and treatment where there is evidence of impairment in a colleague or service recipient.
17. Recognize the effect of impairment on professional performance and be willing to seek appropriate treatment for him/herself.
18. Protect service recipient rights and ensure confidentiality by adhering to all applicable State and Federal laws and regulations. The CPP and CPS shall not participate in, or condone, any illegal activity, including the use of illegal chemicals or the possession, sale or distribution of illegal chemicals. The CPP and CPS shall not participate in, condone, or be an accessory to, dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.
19. Take the initiative to support, promote and improve the delivery of high-quality services throughout the continuum of care of prevention, intervention, treatment and aftercare.
20. Advocate for changes in public policy and legislation to afford opportunities and choices for all persons whose lives are impaired or impacted by the disease of alcoholism, tobacco use and other drug abuse and addictions and to promote the health and well-being of all human beings.
21. Actively participate in the public awareness of the effects of alcohol, tobacco and other drug effects, including alcoholism and other addictions and act to ensure that all persons, especially the disadvantaged, have access to necessary resources and services.

(Adapted from the National Association of Prevention Professionals and Advocates' "Code of Ethical Conduct for Prevention Professionals")