



## **Prevention Practitioners (CPP/CPS) Canon of Ethical Principles**

Per OASAS Part 853.19 Credentialing of Addictions Professionals 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 must be respectful and non-exploitative. Services must 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 must 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 must broaden their 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 their 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 they are responsible.
9. Recognize limitations and boundaries of competencies and not use techniques or offer services outside of their own competencies. The CPP and CPS is responsible for assessing the adequacy of their 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 frivolous ethics complaints or which 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, but it cannot accommodate deceit or the subordination of principle.
12. Not subordinate services and the public trust for personal gain and advantage. Services, including referrals, must be based in the best interest of the recipient(s). All information must be presented fairly and accurately. The CPP and CPS must 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.
14. Not be associated, directly or indirectly, with any services or products in any way that are misleading or incorrect.
15. Report any suspected 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 themselves.
18. Protect service recipients' rights and ensure confidentiality by adhering to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations. The CPP and CPS must 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 must not participate in, condone, or be an accessory to dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.



**Prevention Practitioners (CPP/CPS) Canon of Ethical Principles (continued)**

19. Take the initiative to support, promote and improve the delivery of high-quality services throughout the continuum of care of prevention, treatment and recovery.
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 assure that all persons, especially the disadvantaged, have access to necessary resources and services.
22. Not engage in dual relationships as defined in Part 853.3(h). If a credentialed professional engages in conduct contrary to this prohibition or claims that an exception to this prohibition is warranted because of extraordinary circumstances, it is the credentialed professional who assumes the full burden of demonstrating that the former service recipient has not been exploited, coerced, or manipulated, intentionally or unintentionally.
23. Not engage in sexual activities or sexual contact with current or former service recipient (lack of consent is presumed).
24. Notify appropriate authorities, including employers and OASAS, when they have direct knowledge of a colleague's impairment or misconduct which may interfere with treatment effectiveness and place service recipients and others at risk.

**Misconduct**

The following shall constitute misconduct by a CPP/CPS:

1. Obtaining the credential or designation fraudulently.
2. Practicing or providing services fraudulently, with gross incompetence, with gross negligence on a particular occasion or negligence or incompetence on more than one occasion, or otherwise acting contrary to the interests of a service recipient.
3. Practicing or providing services while under the influence of alcohol and/or other substances.
4. Violating any term or condition or limitation imposed by the Office on the credentialed professional.
5. Refusing to provide services to a person, individual, organization or community because of race, creed, color, gender, age, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.
6. Being convicted of or committing an act constituting a crime under New York state law, federal law, or the law of another jurisdiction which, if committed within New York, would constitute a crime in this state.
7. Promoting the inappropriate sale of services, goods, property or drugs in such manner as to exploit a service recipient for the financial gain of the certified/credentialed professional or of a third party.
8. Directly or indirectly offering, giving, soliciting, or receiving, or agreeing to receive, any fee, or other consideration to or from a third party for the referral of a service recipient in connection with the performance of addiction services.
9. Entering into a dual relationship with a service recipient or former service recipient that is outside the boundaries of professional conduct.
10. Initiating or pursuing a romantic, sexual or otherwise sexually exploitive relationship or committing sexual misconduct with a service recipient or past recipient using romantic/sexual comments or touch, romantic/sexual contact in written, telephonic, or electronic format including but not limited to social media, text messaging, email, photos, videos or recordings of a romantic or sexual nature.
11. Engaging in any conduct which would constitute a "reportable incident" as such terms are defined in Part 836 of this Title.
12. Failure by the applicant or credentialed professional to notify the Office of any disciplinary action taken against him or her as the holder of any other license or certification issued by New York State or any other federal or state authority.



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13. Professional misconduct as the holder of another license or credential.
14. Unlawful use of the title Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor, Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor Trainee, Credentialed Prevention Professional, Credentialed Prevention Specialist or Credentialed Problem Gambling Counselor, including use of such title if a credential is inactive, suspended, expired or revoked, or is pending approval of reciprocity.
15. No person shall use any of the following titles to engage in private practice unless otherwise authorized by law: Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC), Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor Trainee (CASAC Trainee), Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor Provisional (CASAC Provisional), Credentialed Prevention Professional (CPP), Credentialed Prevention Specialist (CPS), or Credentialed Problem Gambling Counselor (CPGC).
16. Knowingly working outside of the scope of practice of the credential as applicable in the work setting.

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1450 Western Avenue | Albany, New York 12203-3526 | [oasas.ny.gov](https://oasas.ny.gov) | 518-473-3460