
Virginia Department of Health Professions

Mission Statement and Code of Ethics

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to ensure safe and competent patient care by licensing health professionals, enforcing standards of practice, and providing information to health care practitioners and the public.

CODE OF ETHICS

As Employees of the Department of Health Professions (DHP), we will commit to open and ethical behavior and leadership in each of our assigned roles as we ensure safe and competent patient care through licensing health professionals, enforcing standards of practice, and providing information to health care practitioners and the public. We will:

1. **abide** by the Commonwealth's commitment to **human rights, environmental protection, community involvement, public health, and economic fairness**.
2. **commit to government transparency** as we conduct agency business on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
3. **safeguard** the agency's resources and be trustworthy stewards of **manpower, finances, and property**.
4. **exercise** due diligence and proper control over the **input, knowledge, preservation, and dissemination of information** to which we are entrusted.
5. **avoid** and **report** known or potential **conflicts of interests**, including, but not limited to, conflicting relationships with sources and/or respondents; conflicting relationships with potential employees; offer of gifts or gratuities for services rendered; and other actions that might give the appearance of impropriety.
6. **treat** our **coworkers** and other colleagues honorably; with **respect, fairness and equality**; and work together for the greater good of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
7. **treat** the **citizens** of the Commonwealth of Virginia with **respect, fairness, and equality** regardless of their role in our process.
8. **not advance** our **private interests** at the expense of the agency, its employees, or the Commonwealth of Virginia. Employees must take care not to compromise the integrity or damage the reputation of the agency, or any individual, business, or government body.
9. **accommodate** other employee's right to **freedom of thought, conscience, and beliefs** without disrupting the mission of the agency.
10. **strive** for **excellence and continuous improvement** in our jobs by maintaining and enhancing our own knowledge and skills; seeking counseling and training; and encouraging professional development of ourselves and our coworkers.
11. **comply** with all DHP, state, and federal **laws, regulations, requirements, policies and procedures**.

EMPLOYEE ATTESTATION

My signature on this document indicates that I have read and fully understand this Code of Ethics and agree to govern myself in accordance with it. I understand that failure to abide by the Code of Ethics or the requirements referenced herein could subject me to disciplinary action in accordance with the Standards of Conduct and/or to criminal prosecution for violation of local, state, or federal laws. I further understand that if I have any doubts or questions about the application of this Code of Ethics, about a policy or rule, or about the appropriateness of something I am doing or thinking about doing, I should refer the matter to my immediate supervisor.

Signature

Date