

# CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

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**engineering**  
new zealand  
Institute of Engineering Professionals

# CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

## OBLIGATIONS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

### 1. Take reasonable steps to safeguard health and safety

You must, in the course of your engineering activities, take reasonable steps to safeguard the health and safety of people.

### 2. Have regard to effects on environment

You must, in the course of your engineering activities,

- i. have regard to reasonably foreseeable effects on the environment from those activities; and
- ii. have regard to the need for sustainable management of the environment. In this rule, sustainable management means management that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations (including at least the future generations within the anticipated lifetime of the end products and by-products of those activities) to meet their own reasonably foreseeable needs.

### 3. Report adverse consequences

If you have reasonable grounds to believe that an engineering matter has, or could have, adverse consequences you must bring the matter to the notice of the relevant regulatory body unless, having made inquiries, you are satisfied on reasonable grounds that the matter is being dealt with through an appropriate process or in an appropriate manner.

## OBLIGATIONS RELATING TO PERSONAL CONDUCT

### 4. Act competently

You

- a. must
  - i. ensure that your relevant knowledge and skills are kept up to date; and
  - ii. only undertake engineering activities that are within your competence; and
  - iii. undertake engineering activities in a careful and competent manner; and
- b. must not
  - i. misrepresent, or permit others to misrepresent, your competence; or
  - ii. knowingly permit other engineers for whose engineering activities you are responsible to: undertake engineering activities that are outside their competence; undertake engineering activities in a manner that is not careful and competent; misrepresent, or permit others to misrepresent, their competence.

### 5. Behave appropriately

In performing, or in connection with, your engineering activities you

- a. must
  - i. act with honesty, objectivity, and integrity; and
  - ii. treat people with respect and courtesy; and

- iii. disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest; and
- b. must not
  - i. offer or promise to give to any person anything intended to improperly influence a decision relating to your engineering activities; or
  - ii. accept from any person anything intended to improperly influence your engineering activities; or
  - iii. otherwise engage in, or support, corrupt practices.

## **6. Inform others of consequences of not following advice**

If you become aware that your professional advice may not be followed, and consider that a failure to observe that advice may have adverse consequences, you must inform the recipient of the advice of those adverse consequences.

## **7. Maintain confidentiality**

- a. If you obtain confidential information from clients or employers in the course of your engineering activities you
  - i. must not use the information for any purpose other than the purpose for which the information was obtained; and
  - ii. must not disclose the information unless the disclosure is permitted by this rule.
- b. You may disclose confidential information if, and to the extent that
  - i. you are required to disclose the information in order to comply with rule 3 or rule 8 and you have first raised the matter with the person to whom confidentiality is owed; or
  - ii. you are otherwise required by law to disclose the information; or
  - iii. the information is publicly available; or
  - iv. the disclosure is authorised by the person to whom confidentiality is owed.
- c. Information disclosed under subclause (b)(i) or (ii) may only be disclosed to the person or organisation to whom or to which you are required to disclose it.

## **8. Report breach of Code**

If you have reasonable grounds to believe that another Member has committed a significant breach of the Code of Ethical Conduct you must report the matter to Engineering New Zealand.

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Adverse consequences** means:

- a. significant harm, or an unacceptable likelihood of significant harm, to the health or safety of people.
- b. significant damage, or an unacceptable likelihood of significant damage, to the environment.

**Engineering activities** means activities for which you use your engineering knowledge and skills.

**Environment** means:

- a. ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities; and
- b. all natural resources and physical (man-made) resources.