

Code of Ethical Behavior

Professional Behavior

Core Principle

As dental/medical professionals, we are responsible for adding value to The American College of Oral Maxillofacial Surgeons, (ACOMS), hereinafter known as The COLLEGE and contributing to the ethical success of this organization. We accept professional responsibility for our individual decisions and actions. We are also advocates for The COLLEGE by engaging in activities that enhance its credibility and value.

Intent

- To build respect, credibility and strategic importance for the Oral Maxillofacial Surgery professionals within our organizations, the healthcare and business community and the communities in which we work;
- To assist the COLLEGE we serve, in achieving its objectives and goals;
- To inform and educate current and future practitioners, the organizations we serve, and the general public about principles and practices that help the profession;
- To encourage professional decision-making and responsibility;
- To encourage social responsibility.

Guidelines

- Adhere to the highest standards of ethical and professional behavior;
- Comply with the law;
- Work consistent with the values of the profession;
- Strive to achieve the highest levels of service, performance and social responsibility;
- Advocate for the appropriate use and appreciation of human beings; we especially honor and respect the generous donation of human life as cadavers to employ as aides for our educational endeavors;
- Advocate openly and within the established forums for debate in order to encourage ethical decision-making and results.

Professional Development

Core Principle

As COLLEGE professionals we commit and must strive to meet the highest standards of competence and to commit to strengthen our competencies on a continuous basis.

Intent

- To expand our knowledge of our field as Oral Maxillofacial Surgeons;
- To advance our understanding how Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons work;

Guidelines

- Pursue continuing education opportunities;
- Commit to continuous life-long learning, skills development and application of new knowledge to our profession as Oral Maxillofacial Surgeons;
- Contribute to the body of knowledge, the evolution of the profession and the growth of individuals through teaching, research and dissemination of knowledge;
- Pursue certification where available, or comparable measures of competencies and knowledge.

Ethical Leadership

Core Principle

We, the COLLEGE professionals are expected to exhibit individual leadership as a role model for maintaining the highest standard of ethical conduct.

Intent

- To set the standard and be an example to others;
- To earn individual respect and increase our credibility with those we serve.

Guidelines

- Be ethical; act ethically in all professional interactions;
- Seek expert guidance if ever in doubt about the ethical propriety of a situation;
- Question pending individual and group actions when necessary to ensure that decisions are ethical and implemented in an ethical manner;
- Through teaching and mentoring, champion the development of others as ethical leaders in the profession and in organizations.

Fairness and Justice

Core Principle

As COLLEGE professionals, we are ethically responsible for promoting and fostering fairness and justice for all individuals.

Intent

To create and sustain an environment that encourages all individuals and the COLLEGE to reach their fullest potential in a positive and productive manner.

Guidelines

- Respect the uniqueness and intrinsic worth of every individual;
- Treat people with dignity, respect and compassion, to foster a trusting environment free of harassment, intimidation, and unlawful discrimination,
- Ensure that everyone has the opportunity to develop their skills and new competencies;
- Assure an environment of inclusiveness and a commitment to diversity in the COLLEGE that we serve;
- Develop, administer and advocate policies and procedures that foster fair, consistent and equitable treatment for all;
- Regardless of personal interests, support decisions made by our COLLEGE that are both ethical and legal.

Conflicts of Interest

Core Principle

As COLLEGE professionals, we must maintain a high level of trust with our stakeholders. We must protect the interests of our stakeholders as well as our professional integrity and should not engage in activities that create actual, apparent, or potential conflicts of interest.

Intent

To avoid activities that are in conflict or may appear to be in conflict with any of the provisions of this Code of Ethical Behavior or with one's responsibilities and duties as a member of the American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

Guidelines

- Refrain from using ones position for personal, material, or financial gain or the appearance of such;
- Prioritize ones obligations to identify conflicts of interest or the appearance thereof, and when conflicts arise, disclose them to relevant stakeholders.
- All Officers, Committee, Sub-committee, Working Group and the like Members, as well as all Speakers and Faculty will annually complete and submit to the Board of Regents their Statement of Disclosures, indicating any possible conflict of interest.

Use of Information

Core Principles

We, the COLLEGE professionals consider and protect the rights of individuals, especially in the acquisition and dissemination of information while ensuring truthful communications and facilitating informed decision-making.

Intent

To build trust among all members by maximizing the open exchange of information, while eliminating inappropriate and/or inaccurate acquisition and sharing of information.

Guidelines

- Acquire and disseminate information through ethical and responsible means;
- Safeguard restricted or confidential information;
- Take appropriate steps to ensure the accuracy and completeness of all communicated information.