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# Ethics and Accountability

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# Purpose of AICP Code of Ethics

- Guide to member conduct
- Inform the public
- Embody values of the planning profession



# Why Talk About Ethics?

- Issues aren't black and white
- Develop reasoning for everyday situations
- Scenarios encourage discussion



# Three Sections of AICP Ethics Code

- Statement of Aspirational Principles
- Rules of Conduct
- Code Procedures



## **Section A: Principles to Which We Aspire**

- **Ideals**
- **Not subject to misconduct or disciplinary action**



# Principals to Which We Aspire

- **Our Overall Responsibility to the Public**
- **Our Responsibility to Our Clients and Employers**
- **Our Responsibility to Our Profession and Colleagues**



## **Section B: Our Rules of Conduct**

- **Must adhere to Rules of Conduct**
- **Enforcement by Institute**
- **Possible Sanctions or Loss of Certification**



# Rules of Conduct

- **Provide Adequate and Accurate Information**
- **No Possible Personal or Financial Gain**
- **Written Disclosure for Outside Employment**
- **Cannot Misstate Professional Qualifications**
- **Ethics Charge Requirements**
- **Use of Information**



# Section C: Code Procedures

- **Instructional/Process**
- **Advice**
- **Rulings**
- **Misconduct Charges**



# Ethics Advice

- **Informal**
  - Oral
  - Not Binding on AICP
- **Formal Advice**
  - Written Order
  - Binding on AICP
  - May be Published



# Misconduct Charges

- **Written Complaint**
- **Investigation**
- **Dismissal of Charge or Issuance of Complaint**
- **Hearing**
- **Settlement of Charges**



# What Does an Ethical Planner Look Like?

Fair

Honest

Reasonable

Trustworthy

Accountable

Admits Mistakes

Sought Out for Advice

Part of Community of Planners

Keeps Fighting the Good Fight



# Contact Information

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