

**Institutional Code of Ethics**

Reference: Accreditation Standard III.A.1.d

All trustees, officers and personnel of the Palo Verde Community College District are committed to serving the needs of the citizens of the District. Our primary responsibility is to provide learning opportunities to students regardless of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, age, marital status, national origin, or handicap.

Each Trustee, officer and employee of Palo Verde College shall:

1. Devote time, thought, and study to his or her duties so that effective and creditable service may be rendered.
2. Work with each other in a spirit of respect and civility in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during vigorous debates of points of view.
3. Base votes and decisions, in every case, upon all available facts and honest conviction, and be unswayed by partisan bias.
4. Remember at all times that as individuals, we have no legal authority, and we shall conduct our relationships with college staff, students, local citizenry, and the media on that basis.
5. Be aware of our responsibility to all citizens of the District. The authority delegated by the District must be exercised with as much care and concern for the least influential as for the most influential member of the community.
6. Resist every temptation and outside pressure to use our Palo Verde College position to benefit either ourselves or any other individual or agency apart from the total welfare of the Palo Verde Community College District.
7. Recognize that it is as important to understand and evaluate the educational program of Palo Verde College to better serve the community.
8. Bear in mind under all circumstances that we are responsible for the effective operation of the District by adhering to the policies and procedures of the District.
9. Welcome and encourage the active involvement of students, employees, and citizens of the District with respect to reviewing and recommending policy.
10. Maintain confidentiality of staff and students.
11. Avail ourselves of opportunities to enhance our potential through participation in educational conferences, workshops, and training sessions offered by local, state, and national organizations.

12. Be informed about issues affecting community colleges at the state and national levels.
13. Strive to provide the most effective community college service of which we are capable, in a spirit of teamwork and devotion to public education.

Any employee who violates the Institutional Code of Ethics may be subject to disciplinary action by the District.

Any trustee or officer of the District who violates the Institutional Code of Ethics, the Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice for the Board (BP 2715), or Conflict of Interest Code (2710) may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

See also BP/AP 2710 – Conflict of Interest

See also BP 2715 – Code of Ethics/Standards of Practice

09/03/08 College Council Approval  
09/23/08 Board First Read  
10/28/08 Board Second Read and Approval