

CODE OF ETHICS

Integrity In Governance



CILGD

CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF LOCAL
GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

CILGD

CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF LOCAL
GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

The Chartered Institute of Local Governance and Development (CILGD) is an international professional body for local government scholars, experts, practitioners, and policymakers worldwide. Members are required to uphold the highest levels of professional integrity, maintaining exemplary conduct and ethical behavior in all dealings with colleagues, staff, stakeholders, and the general public.

Ethical practice demands a deliberate commitment to moral values and the maintenance of rigorous professional standards. This Code serves a vital purpose by establishing the underlying principles and rules that apply to all members.

Objective of the Code

The primary objectives of this Code are:

- To establish standards of conduct that all members must adhere to, including integrity, impartiality, responsibility, professionalism, effectiveness, and objectivity.
- To foster respect for the diverse convictions and values of all individuals encountered during the performance of professional duties.
- To inform the general public of the high standards of conduct they are entitled to expect from CILGD members.
- To enhance public confidence in local government systems and public services globally.
- To encourage all professionals within the field to adopt and abide by these standards.

Application of the Code of Ethics

This Code of Ethics becomes binding upon the approval of your membership by the Governing Council and remains in effect until your membership with the Institute concludes.

Professional Conduct and Leadership

You are expected to uphold the highest professional standards and demonstrate leadership at all times. This Code of Ethics applies whenever you are acting in your capacity as a Local Government scholar, expert, practitioner, or policymaker. This mandate extends to all interactions, including face-to-face or online meetings, as well as written, verbal, non-verbal, electronic, and social media communications. Furthermore, you are expected to adhere to this Code at all other times where you utilize your official position or represent the interests of the Institute.

Fundamental Principles

The following fundamental principles apply to all members:

1. Promoting the Public Interest

Members must act at all times in the primary interest of the public served by the local government system. You must maintain utmost fidelity to the public, prioritizing service above partisan interests or self-interest.

2. Honesty, Propriety, and Integrity

Members must perform their professional duties with unwavering honesty, propriety, and integrity. Honesty includes, but is not limited to, acting with sincerity and refraining from deception, cheating, or theft. Propriety requires behaving in a manner that befits the duties and responsibilities of a member acting in an official capacity. Integrity refers to possessing the moral strength and courage to act based on relevant information and core principles rather than personal expediency.

3. Strengthening Social Equity

Members shall treat all persons with fairness, justice, and equality, respecting individual differences, rights, and freedoms. You are encouraged to promote affirmative action and other initiatives designed to reduce systemic unfairness, injustice, and inequality within society.

4. Competence and Duty of Care

Members must strive continually to maintain and improve their professional knowledge. You must not undertake work beyond your area of competence; such tasks should be delegated to better-qualified individuals to ensure complete and professional execution. All duties must be discharged with diligence and care.

5. Advancing Professional Excellence

Members must continually strengthen their personal capabilities to act competently and ethically, while actively encouraging the professional development of their peers and colleagues.

6. Confidentiality and Respect for Privacy

Members must respect the rights of individuals regarding confidentiality and privacy. You are required to abide by your organization's internal reporting procedures and data protection protocols at all times.

7. Promoting Ethical Organizations

You shall strive to attain the highest standards of ethics, stewardship, and public service within any organization that serves the public interest.

8. Management of Conflicts of Interest

Members must ensure there is no actual, or perceived, conflict between their personal interests and the impartial fulfillment of their professional duties as members of CILGD. Any incompatibility that threatens independent judgment must be disclosed or resolved.

9. Providing Comprehensive Advice

You are committed to providing accurate, honest, comprehensive, and timely information to the general public, elected officials, and both internal and external stakeholders.

10. Justice, Access, and Equity

Members must act with justice and equity in their roles, ensuring that all local governance and public service issues are handled with impartiality and fairness

11. Upholding the Constitution and the Law

Members must respect and support national constitutions and laws. While you are encouraged to seek the improvement of policies for the public good, your professional conduct must remain within the legal framework of your jurisdiction.

12. Duty of Non-Maleficence (Prevention of Harm)

Members must not cause harm and must actively prevent harm to their employers, clients, the profession, the community, or fellow members of CILGD. Engagement in business activities that bring the reputation of the profession or the Institute into disrepute is strictly prohibited. This does not preclude service on boards or committees that contribute to the wider community good.

