

GME 100
General and Professional Ethics
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Code of Ethics for Engineers

Engineers' Creed

As a Professional Engineer, I dedicate my professional knowledge and skill to the advancement and betterment of human welfare.

I pledge:

To give the utmost of performance;

To participate in none but honest enterprise;

To live and work according to the laws of man and the highest standards of professional conduct;

To place service before profit, the honor and standing of the profession before personal advantage, and the public welfare above all other considerations.

In humility and with need for Divine Guidance, I make this pledge.

Adopted by National Society of Professional Engineers, June 1954

I. Fundamental Canons

Engineers, in the fulfillment of their professional duties, shall:

1. Hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public.
2. Perform services only in areas of their competence.
3. Issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner.
4. Act for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees.
5. Avoid deceptive acts.
6. Conduct themselves honorably, responsibly, ethically, and lawfully so as to enhance the honor, reputation, and usefulness of the profession.

II. Rules of Practice

1. Engineers shall hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public.

- a. If engineers' judgment is overruled under circumstances that endanger life or property, they shall notify their employer or client and such other authority as may be appropriate.
- b. Engineers shall approve only those engineering documents that are in conformity with applicable standards.
- c. Engineers shall not reveal facts, data, or information without the prior consent of the client or employer except as authorized or required by law or this Code.
- d. Engineers shall not permit the use of their name or associate in business ventures with any person or firm that they believe is engaged in fraudulent or dishonest enterprise.
- e. Engineers shall not aid or abet the unlawful practice of engineering by a person or firm.
- f. Engineers having knowledge of any alleged violation of this Code shall report thereon to appropriate professional bodies and, when relevant, also to public authorities, and cooperate with the proper authorities in furnishing such information or assistance as may be required.

2. Engineers shall perform services only in the areas of their competence.

- a. Engineers shall undertake assignments only when qualified by education or experience in the specific technical fields involved.
- b. Engineers shall not affix their signatures to any plans or documents dealing with subject matter in which they lack competence, nor to any plan or document not prepared under their direction and control.
- c. Engineers may accept assignments and assume responsibility for coordination of an entire project and sign and seal the engineering documents for the entire project, provided that each technical segment is signed and sealed only by the qualified engineers who prepared the segment.

3. Engineers shall issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner.

- a. Engineers shall be objective and truthful in professional reports, statements, or testimony. They shall include all relevant and pertinent information in such reports, statements, or testimony, which should bear the date indicating when it was current.
- b. Engineers may express publicly technical opinions that are founded upon knowledge of the facts and competence in the subject matter.
- c. Engineers shall issue no statements, criticisms, or arguments on technical matters that are inspired or paid for by interested parties, unless they have prefaced their comments by explicitly identifying the interested parties on whose behalf they are speaking, and by revealing the existence of any interest the engineers may have in the matters.

4. Engineers shall act for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees.

- a. Engineers shall disclose all known or potential conflicts of interest that could influence or appear to influence their judgment or the quality of their services.
- b. Engineers shall not accept compensation, financial or otherwise, from more than one party for services on the same project, or for services pertaining to the same project, unless the circumstances are fully disclosed and agreed to by all interested parties.
- c. Engineers shall not solicit or accept financial or other valuable consideration, directly or indirectly, from outside agents in connection with the work for which they are responsible.
- d. Engineers in public service as members, advisors, or employees of a governmental or quasi-governmental body or department shall not participate in decisions with respect to services solicited or provided by them or their organizations in private or public engineering practice.
- e. Engineers shall not solicit or accept a contract from a governmental body on which a principal or officer of their organization serves as a member.

5. Engineers shall avoid deceptive acts.

- a. Engineers shall not falsify their qualifications or permit misrepresentation of their or their associates' qualifications. They shall not misrepresent or exaggerate their responsibility in or for the subject matter of prior assignments. Brochures or other presentations incident to the solicitation of employment shall not misrepresent pertinent facts concerning employers, employees, associates, joint venturers, or past accomplishments.
- b. Engineers shall not offer, give, solicit, or receive, either directly or indirectly, any contribution to influence the award of a contract by public authority, or which may be reasonably construed by the public as having the effect or intent of influencing the awarding of a contract. They shall not offer any gift or other valuable consideration in order to secure work. They shall not pay a commission, percentage, or brokerage fee in order to secure work, except to a bona fide employee or bona fide established commercial or marketing agencies retained by them.

III. Professional Obligations

- 1. Engineers shall be guided in all their relations by the highest standards of honesty and integrity.**
 - a. Engineers shall acknowledge their errors and shall not distort or alter the facts.
 - b. Engineers shall advise their clients or employers when they believe a project will not be successful.
 - c. Engineers shall not accept outside employment to the detriment of their regular work or interest. Before accepting any outside engineering employment, they will notify their employers.
 - d. Engineers shall not attempt to attract an engineer from another employer by false or misleading pretenses.
 - e. Engineers shall not promote their own interest at the expense of the dignity and integrity of the profession.
 - f. Engineers shall treat all persons with dignity, respect, fairness, and without discrimination.

2. Engineers shall at all times strive to serve the public interest.

- a. Engineers are encouraged to participate in civic affairs; career guidance for youths; and work for the advancement of the safety, health, and well-being of their community.
- b. Engineers shall not complete, sign, or seal plans and/or specifications that are not in conformity with applicable engineering standards. If the client or employer insists on such unprofessional conduct, they shall notify the proper authorities and withdraw from further service on the project.
- c. Engineers are encouraged to extend public knowledge and appreciation of engineering and its achievements.
- d. Engineers are encouraged to adhere to the principles of sustainable development¹ in order to protect the environment for future generations.
- e. Engineers shall continue their professional development throughout their careers and should keep current in their specialty fields by engaging in professional practice, participating in continuing education courses, reading in the technical literature, and attending professional meetings and seminar.

3. Engineers shall avoid all conduct or practice that deceives the public.

- a. Engineers shall avoid the use of statements containing a material misrepresentation of fact or omitting a material fact.
- b. Consistent with the foregoing, engineers may advertise for recruitment of personnel.
- c. Consistent with the foregoing, engineers may prepare articles for the lay or technical press, but such articles shall not imply credit to the author for work performed by others.

4. Engineers shall not disclose, without consent, confidential information concerning the business affairs or technical processes of any present or former client or employer, or public body on which they serve.

- a. Engineers shall not, without the consent of all interested parties, promote or arrange for new employment or practice in connection with a specific project for which the engineer has gained particular and specialized knowledge.
- b. Engineers shall not, without the consent of all interested parties, participate in or represent an adversary interest in connection with a specific project or proceeding in which the engineer has gained particular specialized knowledge on behalf of a former client or employer.

- 5. Engineers shall not be influenced in their professional duties by conflicting interests.**
- a. Engineers shall not accept financial or other considerations, including free engineering designs, from material or equipment suppliers for specifying their product.
 - b. Engineers shall not accept commissions or allowances, directly or indirectly, from contractors or other parties dealing with clients or employers of the engineer in connection with work for which the engineer is responsible.

6. Engineers shall not attempt to obtain employment or advancement or professional engagements by untruthfully criticizing other engineers, or by other improper or questionable methods.

- a. Engineers shall not request, propose, or accept a commission on a contingent basis under circumstances in which their judgment may be compromised.
- b. Engineers in salaried positions shall accept part-time engineering work only to the extent consistent with policies of the employer and in accordance with ethical considerations.
- c. Engineers shall not, without consent, use equipment, supplies, laboratory, or office facilities of an employer to carry on outside private practice.

7. Engineers shall not attempt to injure, maliciously or falsely, directly or indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects, practice, or employment of other engineers. Engineers who believe others are guilty of unethical or illegal practice shall present such information to the proper authority for action.

- a. Engineers in private practice shall not review the work of another engineer for the same client, except with the knowledge of such engineer, or unless the connection of such engineer with the work has been terminated.
- b. Engineers in governmental, industrial, or educational employ are entitled to review and evaluate the work of other engineers when so required by their employment duties.
- c. Engineers in sales or industrial employ are entitled to make engineering comparisons of represented products with products of other suppliers.

- 8. Engineers shall accept personal responsibility for their professional activities, provided, however, that engineers may seek indemnification for services arising out of their practice for other than gross negligence, where the engineer's interests cannot otherwise be protected.**
- a. Engineers shall conform with state registration laws in the practice of engineering.
 - b. Engineers shall not use association with a nonengineer, a corporation, or partnership as a “cloak” for unethical acts.

- 9. Engineers shall give credit for engineering work to those to whom credit is due, and will recognize the proprietary interests of others.**
- a. Engineers shall, whenever possible, name the person or persons who may be individually responsible for designs, inventions, writings, or other accomplishments.
 - b. Engineers using designs supplied by a client recognize that the designs remain the property of the client and may not be duplicated by the engineer for others without express permission.
 - c. Engineers, before undertaking work for others in connection with which the engineer may make improvements, plans, designs, inventions, or other records that may justify copyrights or patents, should enter into a positive agreement regarding ownership.
 - d. Engineers' designs, data, records, and notes referring exclusively to an employer's work are the employer's property. The employer should indemnify the engineer for use of the information for any purpose other than the original purpose.

Footnote 1 “Sustainable development” is the challenge of meeting human needs for natural resources, industrial products, energy, food, transportation, shelter, and effective waste management while conserving and protecting environmental quality and the natural resource base essential for future development.

Statement by NSPE Executive Committee

In order to correct misunderstandings which have been indicated in some instances since the issuance of the Supreme Court decision and the entry of the Final Judgment, it is noted that in its decision of April 25, 1978, the Supreme Court of the United States declared: "The Sherman Act does not require competitive bidding."

It is further noted that as made clear in the Supreme Court decision:

1. Engineers and firms may individually refuse to bid for engineering services.
2. Clients are not required to seek bids for engineering services.
3. Federal, state, and local laws governing procedures to procure engineering services are not affected, and remain in full force and effect.
4. State societies and local chapters are free to actively and aggressively seek legislation for professional selection and negotiation procedures by public agencies.
5. State registration board rules of professional conduct, including rules prohibiting competitive bidding for engineering services, are not affected and remain in full force and effect. State registration boards with authority to adopt rules of professional conduct may adopt rules governing procedures to obtain engineering services.
6. As noted by the Supreme Court, "nothing in the judgment prevents NSPE and its members from attempting to influence governmental action . . ."

IEEE – code of ethics

1. to accept responsibility in making decisions consistent with the safety, health and welfare of the public, and to disclose promptly factors that might endanger the public or the environment;
2. to avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest whenever possible, and to disclose them to affected parties when they do exist;
3. to be honest and realistic in stating claims or estimates based on available data;
4. to reject bribery in all its forms;
5. to improve the understanding of technology, its appropriate application, and potential consequences
6. to maintain and improve our technical competence and to undertake technological tasks for others only if qualified by training or experience, or after full disclosure of pertinent limitations;
7. to seek, accept, and offer honest criticism of technical work, to acknowledge and correct errors, and to credit properly the contributions of others;
8. to treat fairly all persons regardless of such factors as race, religion, gender, disability, age, or national origin;
9. to avoid injuring others, their property, reputation, or employment by false or malicious action;
10. to assist colleagues and co-workers in their professional development and to support them in following this code of ethics

Note 1: Maroon – overlap with NSPE fundamental canons

Note 2: Code is broader than NSPE

Big picture

- Codes of ethics are not a law
- Ethical behavior is not always protected by law
- Frequently ethical behavior may be perceived as disloyalty
- Many companies realize that ethical behavior is essential for their long term prosperity
- Ethically aware companies provide
 - Provide help to employees facing ethical conflicts
 - Allow employees to raise ethical concerns anonymously
 - Explicitly prevent any forms of retaliation for reporting unethical behavior

Example 1: TI Ethics Quick Test



- Is the action legal?
- Does it comply with our values?
- If you do it, will you feel bad?
- How will it look in the newspaper?
- If you know it's wrong, don't do it!
- If you're not sure, ask.
- Keep asking until you get an answer.

1999

TMMOB MESLEKİ DAVRANIŞ İLKELERİ TMMOB

38. GENEL KURUL KARARI

"TMMOB 38. Olağan Genel Kurulu, TMMOB Mesleki Davranış İlkelerini, mühendislik, mimarlık ve şehir plancılığı etkinliklerinde yönlendirici ve eğitici ilkeler olarak kabul eder ve bu ilkelerin tanıtılması, tartışılması ve geliştirilmesi için TMMOB 38. Dönem Yönetim Kurulu'nu görevlendirir."

1 Eylül 2004 TMMOB

Giriş

İnsanlığın refahına son derece olumlu katkılarda bulunan teknoloji, diğer yandan da insana, topluma ve doğaya karşı olumsuz etkiler yaratma potansiyeline sahiptir. Mühendislik, mimarlık ve şehir plancılığı hizmetleri, gerek tek tek bireylerin, gerekse toplumun günlük yaşamının her noktasını, her geçen gün daha çok etkilemekte, bu etki günümüzle sınırlı kalmayıp geleceğimizi de kapsamaktadır. Bu nedenle de, mühendislerin ve mimarların topluma, doğaya ve gelecek kuşaklara karşı sorumlulukları da hizmetlerinin kapsamıyla aynı oranda artmaktadır. Ayrıca, gelişme sürecinin sıkıntılarını yaşayan ülkemizde bu toplumsal sorumluluk kendisini daha da ağırlıklı olarak hissettirmektedir. Bu sorumluluk mesleki alanda sürekli yetkinleşmek kadar, mesleği toplumun güvenliğini, sağlığını ve refahını en başa koyan bir anlayışla uygulamak ve mesleki etkinlikleri barış, adalet, insan hak ve onuruna saygı, ayırım gözetmemek, dürüstlük, doğruluk, hakkaniyet, eşitlik, özgürlük gibi vazgeçilmez değerlere ve erdemlere sıkı sıkıya bağlı kalarak yürütmekle yerine getirilebilir. Ve gene bu sorumluluk, insanın kısa vadeli bencil isteklerini öne çıkararak, canlı ve cansız doğanın tahribine yol açan anlayışlara bilinçli bir biçimde karşı konulmasını gerektirir. Bununla birlikte, mesleki etkinlikleri sırasında, herşey mühendisler ve mimarların kendi iradelerine bağlı ve kendi denetimleri altında değildir. Toplumun sağlık, güvenlik, ve refahını tehlikeye atan ve canlı ve cansız doğaya zarar veren uygulamaların, teknolojinin doğası kadar, içinde yaşanılan toplumsal koşulların ve sistemin doğası ile de birinci dereceden ilgili olduğunun en yakın tanıkları mühendisler ve mimarlardır. Bu durumun sorumluluklarını gerçekleştirmeyi çok daha zorlaştırdığının bilincindedirler. Mühendisler ve mimarlar, toplumsal sorumluluklarının kendilerini birey olarak belirli mesleki davranış ilkelerine sıkı sıkıya sahip çıkma göreviyle karşı karşıya bıraktıkları gözden kaçırmazlar. Bunun yanı sıra, başta dizginsiz kar arayışları olmak üzere, toplumsal sorumluluklarını gerçekleştirmelerinin önündeki bütün engellere karşı örgütlü bir mücadele yürütmelerinin ve aralarındaki dayanışmayı sürekli geliştirmelerinin de zorunlu olduğu gerçeğine gözlerini kapamazlar. Mühendisler, mimarlar ve şehir plancıları, bu bilinçle, mesleki etkinliklerinde aşağıda tanımlanan ilkelere uymayı, uyulması için meslektaşlarını uyarmayı bir görev sayarlar.

Topluma ve Doğaya Karşı Sorumluluklar

Bilimi ve teknolojiyi insanlık yararına kullanmayı mesleki etkinliklerinin temel ilkesi kabul eden mühendis ve mimarlar;

1. Mesleki bilgi, beceri ve deneyimlerini, toplumun güvenliği, sağlığı ve refahı; insani kazanımların ve kültürel mirasın korunması için kullanırlar. Toplum yararı için duymuş oldukları sorumluluk ve kaygı her zaman kendi kişisel çıkarlarının, meslektaşlarının çıkarlarının ya da içinde bulundukları meslek grubunun çıkarlarının üstünde yer alır.
2. Doğaya ve gelecek kuşaklara karşı sorumluluklarının bilinciyle, doğayı ve çevreyi korumayı, uygulamalarının doğayla uyumlu olmasını sağlamayı mesleki sorumluluklarının ayrılmaz parçası olarak görürler; doğal kaynakların ve enerjinin tasarrufuna özel önem verirler.
3. Mesleki etkinliklerini sürdürürken, din, dil, ırk, inanç, cinsiyet, coğrafi ayırım farkı gözetmezler; farklı kültürlerle saygıyla yaklaşırlar; toplumdaki herkese adil, dürüst ve iyi niyetle davranırlar.
4. Kendilerinden istenen işin toplum ve doğa için ciddi bir tehlike yaratacağı sonucuna varırlarsa ve bu konudaki mesleki yargıları hizmet verilen gerçek ve tüzel kişiler tarafından dikkate alınmıyorsa, onların talimatlarına kayıtsız şartsız uymayı reddederler; bu durumun kendilerine hizmet verilenleri uyarmak, gerektiğinde meslek örgütlerini ve hatta kamu oyunu bilgilendirmek gibi hak ve yükümlülükler getirdiğini dikkate alırlar.
5. Toplumun ilgi alanı içinde bulunan teknik konulardaki görüşlerini, raporlarını, konuyu yerinde ve tam anlamıyla incelemiş ve yeterli bilgi ve verilerle donanmış olarak, ticari ve kişisel kaygıları bir yana bırakarak, adil, doğru, eksiksiz ve nesnel bir biçimde açıklarlar.
6. Ülkenin teknoloji yeteneğinin geliştirilmesi sürecinde, teknolojinin gerek kendisinin gerekse yanlış kullanılmasının olası olumsuz sonuçlarının da toplum tarafından anlaşılması ve gerekli önlemlerin alınması için çaba harcarlar.
7. İşyerlerindeki sağlık ve güvenliği titizlikle ve ertelemeksizin korur ve geliştirirler. Gerekli önlemlerin alınması için zorlayıcı, uygulayıcı, eğitici ve dayanışma içinde olurlar.

Hizmet Verilen Gerçek ya da Tüzel Kişilere Karşı Sorumluluklar

Mühendisler ve mimarlar,

1. Mesleki hizmet verilirken, güvenilirliklerini titizlikle gözeterek, yaptıkları her türlü sözel ya da yazılı sözleşmede yer alan bütün hükümlere tam olarak uyarlar ve karşı taraftan da aynı duyarlılığı beklerler.
2. Her türlü mesleki hizmet sırasında, toplumun güvenliğini, sağlığını ve refahını tehlikeye atmamaya en üst düzeyde özen göstererek, mesleki beceri ve deneyimlerini yaptıkları işe bütünüyle yansıtarak düzgün bir iş standardıyla çalışırlar.
3. İş ilişkilerini etkileyecek şekilde doğrudan ya da dolaylı olarak herhangi bir armağan, para ya da hizmet ya da iş teklifi kabul etmezler; başkalarına teklif etmezler; mesleki ilişkilerini geliştirmek amacıyla siyasal amaçlı bağış yapmazlar.
4. Yaptıkları işin kendi deneyimlerini zenginleştirmesi için titizlikle çaba gösterirken, toplum ve doğa için kesin bir tehlike oluşturmadığı sürece, hizmet verilen gerçek ve tüzel kişilerin ticari ve teknolojik sırlarını izin almadan başkalarına açıklamazlar, kişisel çıkarları için kullanmazlar.

Mesleğe ve Meslektaşına Karşı Sorumluluklar

1. Mesleki etkinliklerini, tüm meslektaşlarının güvenini kazanacak bir biçimde ve mesleğin saygınlığına azami özen göstererek sürdürürler.
2. Tüm meslektaşlarına saygıyla yaklaşırlar, dürüst ve adil davranırlar. Meslektaşlarıyla haksız rekabet içinde olmazlar. Genç meslektaşlarının gelişimi için özel çaba harcarlar, onlara yardımcı olurlar. Telif haklarına ve özgün çalışmalara saygı gösterirler; başkalarının çalışmalarını kendi çalışmaları gibi göstermekten titizlikle kaçınırlar.
3. Yalnızca yeterli oldukları alanlarda mesleki hizmet üretmeyi hedef ve ilke kabul ederler; hizmetlerini etkileyebilecek diğer uzmanlık alanlarındaki yetkililerin görüşlerine başvururlar; disiplinlerarası ortak çalışmayı özendirirler.
4. Mesleki görev, yetki ve sorumluluklarını, sadece zorunlu durumlarda ve ancak ehil olan meslektaşlarına devrederler.
5. İşlerini yalnızca kendilerine tanınmış mesleki görev, yetki ve sorumluluk çerçevesinde yaparlar, yalnızca resmi olarak hak kazanmış oldukları sıfat ve unvanları kullanırlar.
6. Meslek örgütlerinin etkinliklerine aktif olarak katılmaya çaba gösterirler, onları desteklerler, mesleğin gelişmesine katkıda bulunurlar.
7. Mesleki Davranış İlkelerine aykırı davrananlara yardımcı olmazlar; onlara hoşgörü göstermezler, etkinliklerinin içinde yer almazlar ve uyarırlar; bu konuda meslek örgütleriyle işbirliği içinde olurlar; bu ilkelere uygun davrananları bütün güçleriyle desteklerler.

Kendilerine Karşı Sorumlulukları

1. Mesleki bilgilerini ve kültürlerini sürekli geliştirirler.
2. Mesleki etkinliklerine ilişkin olarak meslektaşlarının dürüst ve nesnel eleştirilerini dikkate alırlar, gerektiğinde kendileri de eleştirmekten kaçınmazlar.