

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of Interest Policy

The AHA has established a [Conflict of Interest Policy](#) that applies to all AHA leaders. Throughout the course of performing duties associated with the ECC leadership role, all ECC leaders must comply with these policies.

The AHA, its affiliates and components, and all officers, directors, delegates, and council and committee members scrupulously shall avoid any conflict between their own respective personal, professional, or business interests and the interests of the AHA in any and all actions taken by them on behalf of the AHA in their respective capacities.

In the event that any officer, director, delegate, council, or committee member of the AHA shall have any direct or indirect interest in, or relationship with, any individual or organization which proposes to enter into any transaction with the AHA, including but not limited to transactions involving

- ▶ The sale, purchase, lease, or rental of any property or other asset
- ▶ Employment, or rendition of services, personal or otherwise
- ▶ The award of any grant, contract, or subcontract
- ▶ The investment or deposit of any funds of the AHA

such person shall give notice of such interest or relationship and shall thereafter refrain from discussing or voting on the particular transaction in which he or she has an interest, or otherwise attempting to exert any influence on the AHA or its components to affect a decision to participate or not participate in such a transaction.

Regional Application of the Statement of Conflict of Interest

The expectation is that ECC leaders will conduct themselves with impartiality while performing AHA ECC tasks. When this is not possible, a statement of conflict of interest must be made and recorded into appropriate venue minutes, and there may be a need for the leader to excuse himself or herself from the decision-making process.

ETHICS/CODE OF CONDUCT

Overview

The AHA has established an [Ethics Policy](#) that applies to all AHA leaders, TCs, and instructors. These positions hold a responsibility to exhibit a high standard of conduct.

ECC Leadership Code of Conduct

All persons in AHA ECC leadership are expected to conduct themselves with honesty, integrity, and a commitment to the goals of the AHA and ECC Programs. This code is intended to provide standards of professional conduct.

The scope of the standards implied in this code includes activities directly related to the discharge of ECC leadership functions, such as committee activities and assignments, as well as actions performed with other AHA programs or activities, such as ECC classes and activities related to AHA affiliate programs.

Conduct Competence

- ▶ ECC leaders must demonstrate a competent knowledge relative to their assigned specific area of responsibility.
- ▶ Leaders must maintain all prerequisites for the position and participate in required educational or informational sessions.

Respect for others

- ▶ ECC leaders must respect and treat others fairly, regardless of race, ancestry, place of origin, color, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, age, disability, or any other basis protected by law.
- ▶ Additionally, there is no tolerance for sexual harassment, including sexual solicitation, physical advances, or verbal or nonverbal conduct that is sexual in nature and that is unwelcome, offensive, or creates a hostile work or classroom environment.

Integrity

- ▶ ECC leaders must conduct themselves with honesty, fairness, and trustworthiness and must not make statements that are false, misleading, or deceptive.
- ▶ ECC leaders must adhere to all applicable AHA rules and regulations governing the ECC Programs, course, and TC operations as well as all federal, state, and local laws and regulations in the discharge of their AHA duties.

Neutrality

- ▶ AHA volunteers must maintain neutrality in terms of specific proprietary products or brand names (eg, drugs, devices, and publications) and in terms of descriptions of other professional individuals and organizations.
- ▶ Specifically, whenever possible, generic names for drugs and devices should be used.
- ▶ While in their volunteer roles, instructors and Faculty must not be advocates for specific brand names or proprietary products outside of AHA recommendations.
- ▶ Furthermore, instructors and Faculty, while in their volunteer roles, must use caution when referring to others, particularly when referring to differences or negative descriptions of other professional individuals or organizations.