



CODE OF ETHICS

Principles of Ethical Conduct for Government Officers and Employees

1. Public service is a public trust, requiring employees to place loyalty to the Constitution, the laws, and ethical principles above private gain.
2. Employees shall not hold financial interests that conflict with the conscientious performance of duty.
3. Employees shall not engage in financial transactions using nonpublic Government information or allow the improper use of such information to further any private interest.
4. An employee shall not, except pursuant to such reasonable exceptions as are provided by regulation, solicit or accept any gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity seeking official action from, doing business with, or conducting, activities regulated by the employee's agency, or whose interests may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the employee's duties.
5. Employees shall put forth honest effort in the performance of their duties.
6. Employees shall make no unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind the Government.
7. Employees shall not use public office for private gain.
8. Employees shall act impartially and not give preferential treatment to any private organization or individual.
9. Employees shall protect and conserve Federal property and shall not use it for other than authorized activities.
10. Employees shall not engage in outside employment or activities, including seeking or negotiating for employment, that conflict with official Government duties and responsibilities.
11. Employees shall disclose waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption to appropriate authorities.
12. Employees shall satisfy in good faith their obligations as citizens, including all just financial obligations, especially those—such as Federal, State, or local taxes—that are imposed by law.
13. Employees shall adhere to all laws and regulations that provide equal opportunity for all Americans regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or handicap.
14. Employees shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that they are violating the law or the ethical standards promulgated pursuant to this order.

Let's do lunch.



ETHICS CONTRACTOR

All of the contracts bids are in. One of the bidders would like to take you out to lunch. Ask yourself: 1) Is this a gift I can accept? 2) How would this look to an outsider? As a federal Government employee, you have been placed in a position of trust and are held to a high standard of ethical conduct.

For more information on the ethics laws regarding working with contractors, please contact your agency's ethics office.

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Public Service.



ETHICS PUBLIC SERVICE

Public service is a public trust. Every citizen deserves to have complete confidence in the integrity of the Federal Government. As public servants, we should adhere to the principles of ethical conduct.

For more information on your ethical responsibilities as a public servant, please contact your agency's ethics office.

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Before you walk out of the door...



ETHICS POST-EMPLOYMENT

Getting ready to leave Government service? Do you know that certain laws and regulations still apply even after you walk out of the door? As a federal Government employee, you have been placed in a position of trust and are held to a high standard of ethical conduct.

For more information on the ethics laws regarding post-employment, please contact your agency's ethics office.

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Wearing too many hats?



ETHICS OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

Applying for a second job? Interested in writing a book, volunteering in the community, or teaching a class? Your agency may require prior approval before engaging in certain outside activities. As a federal Government employee, you have been placed in a position of trust and are held to a high standard of ethical conduct.

For more information on the ethics laws regarding outside activities, please contact your agency's ethics office.

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Impartiality.



ETHICS IMPARTIALITY

Would a reasonable person question your involvement with that project? How would your actions be interpreted on the evening news? As a federal Government employee, you have been placed in a position of trust and are held to a high standard of ethical conduct.

For more information on the ethics laws regarding impartiality, please contact your agency's ethics office.

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Happy Birthday and Retirement and
Congratulations on the Wedding and...



ETHICS GIFT ACCEPTANCE

Thinking about giving a gift to someone in your office? Have you ever wondered if accepting that gift was the right thing to do? As a federal Government employee, you have been placed in a position of trust and are held to a high standard of ethical conduct.

For more information on the ethics laws regarding gift acceptance, please contact your agency's ethics office.

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Will you be there?



ETHICS WIDELY ATTENDED GATHERINGS

Have you been invited to attend an event related to your occupation? Wondering if you can attend? As a federal Government employee, you have been placed in a position of trust and are held to a high standard of ethical conduct.

For more information on the ethics laws regarding widely attended gatherings, please contact your agency's ethics office.

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Looking for a new job?



ETHICS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

Applying to your dream job? Is that company affected by your Government work? As a federal Government employee, you have been placed in a position of trust and are held to a high standard of ethical conduct.

For more information on the ethics laws regarding seeking employment, please contact your agency's ethics office.

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