



# *Draft* NCAE-C Student Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct

Co-Chairs:

Kelli Burgin & Anna Carlin

# Committee

Crystal Dye - Southwest Virginia Community College

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Randall Joyce - Murray State University

Dan Manson - Norwich University

Valarie (Vickie) McLain - Alexandria Technical and Community College

Ed Skoudis - SANS Technology Institute

Gary Sparks - Metropolitan Community College



# Process

February – Sub-committee created by Community of Practice in Cyber Defense

March – Co-Chairs contacted potential members

March – May – Committee met to discuss and create first draft of NCAE-C Student Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct

May – Feedback requested and received from Community of Practice in Cyber Operations and Community of Practice in Research

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As a cybersecurity student, you are expected to uphold a code of ethics and professional behavior that promotes the highest standards of integrity, honesty, and professionalism. This code serves as a guide to help you make ethical decisions and to maintain the trust and confidence of your clients, colleagues, and the public.

The following are the principles of the cybersecurity student code of ethics and professional behavior for students attending NCAE schools:

1. **Respect:** Treat others with respect, honesty, and will act in a legal and moral fashion with regards to others. You should also respect the laws and regulations that govern your profession and avoid engaging in any activities that could be considered illegal or unethical.

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2. Professionalism: Conduct yourself in a professional manner and always adhere to ethical standards when dealing with clients, colleagues, and the public. Your actions should be based on sound judgment, integrity, and the highest levels of ethical conduct.

3. Confidentiality: Maintain the privacy and confidentiality of information, especially when concerning protected health information, personally identifiable information, or intellectual property entrusted to you.

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4. Accountability: Take responsibility for your actions and be accountable for any mistakes or errors that you make. You should also learn from your mistakes and take steps to prevent them from happening again,
5. Collaboration: Strive to collaborate online and in-person with other cyber professionals to make the cyber world safer for all.
6. Attribution: Give credit for the work of others. Only use generative AI with proper attribution and proper permission from your college or university.

7. Continuous Learning: Continue as a life-long learner to ensure competency in the field. You should share your knowledge with others and promote best practices.

8. Reporting: Cybersecurity students and professionals should report to the appropriate authorities any unethical behavior they observe in the course of their work.

By adhering to this code of ethics and professional behavior, cybersecurity students can build a reputation for professionalism, integrity, and respect for the public interest.

The committee consulted existing ethical standards and codes in researching the proposed NCAE-C Student Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct. Organizations consulted: CompTIA, SkillsUsa, IEEE, ACM, ISACA, ISSA, ISC2, InfraGard, Montreat College Cybersecurity Oath, National Cyber League, AFA CyberPatriot, the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition, and ChatGPT.

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Feedback

Student Code of  
Professional Conduct

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A nighttime photograph of a city skyline, likely Seattle, featuring several illuminated skyscrapers. The sky is a deep blue, and the buildings are lit up with warm yellow and white lights. A prominent building in the center has a glowing green top. The foreground shows a dark, modern building with a glass facade.

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