

## CODE OF ETHICS FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS

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In my Alternative Learning System modular class, one of the most common reasons why students will pursue Education Courses is the undemanding and uncomplicated demands of the program. The students' limited-to-none knowledge of the laborious and challenging tasks of the teachers is only judged on their day-to-day encounters in classroom settings. But the duties and responsibilities of the considered "noblest professionals" in the world go beyond the four corners of the school classrooms.

The Magna Carta for Public School Teachers is considered the "bible" of the teaching profession, whilst the Code of Ethics for Professional Teachers is the guiding compass of the teachers in exhibiting acceptable behavior to the learning community at all times while performing the mandated task of the State to deliver quality education. It is highly imperative that teachers observe and practice ethical and moral principles, standards and values reflected in the code.

The Code of Ethics for Public School Teachers covers all public and private school teachers in all educational institutions at the preschool, primary, elementary, and secondary levels whether academic, vocational, special, technical, or non-formal. The term "teacher" shall include industrial arts or vocational teachers and all other persons performing supervisory and /or administrative functions in all schools at the aforesaid levels, whether on a full time or part-time basis.

It is mandated by law, as schools are considered as the nurseries of the future citizens of the state: each teacher is a trustee of the cultural and educational heritage of the nation and is under obligation to transmit to learners such heritage as well as to elevate national morality, promote national pride, cultivate a love of country, instill allegiance to the constitution and for all duly constituted authorities, and promote obedience to the laws of the state.

The code also explored the relationship of the teachers to the profession itself, community, higher authorities in the professions, co-workers, school officials and other personnel, learners, and parents.

In situations where teachers are confronted with the challenges to make professional decisions that seem to have ethical implications, there are conditions and provisions of the Code of Ethics that will guide them to determine the best possible actions.

Teachers have a great influence on the lives of their learners. They are expected to be professionally competent in the practice of their profession. Moreover, they need also to possess a good reputation not only in the school

but in the entire community. Having this major responsibility in the learning environment, teachers must always be guided by this code which comprehensively discusses the different expectations from a teacher.

A personal moral compass or individual code of ethics must also be in parallel with the existing Code of Ethics. While it is pretty much certain that personal judgment and perspective are always present when teachers function and decide in difficult times, those decisions must conform to the general standards, and accountability is always demanded. It is clearly stated in the code that any violation of any provisions of it shall be sufficient ground for the imposition against the erring teacher of the disciplinary action consisting of revocation of his Certification of Registration and License as a Professional Teacher, suspension from the practice of teaching profession, reprimand or cancellation of teachers' temporary/special permit.

The Code of Professional of Professional Teachers is crafted to protect both the teachers and the learners. It is imperative for the former to be guided by law to make the best possible decisions and actions for the latter.

A teacher is, above all human being endowed with life for which it is the highest obligation to live with dignity at all times whether in school, in the home, or elsewhere, with or without the code of conduct.

**REFERENCE:**

Code of Ethics for Professional Teachers in the Philippines from  
[www.academia.edu](http://www.academia.edu)

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