NEW YORK STATE SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION, INC.
CODE OF ETHICS
 Revised 2019

Preamble

Preservation of the highest standards of integrity and ethical principles is vital to the successful discharge of the responsibilities of all Members and Associates of the New York State-Language-Hearing Association. This Code of Ethics has been promulgated to highlight the fundamental rules considered essential to this basic purpose. The failure to specify and particular responsibility or practice in this Code of Ethics should not be construed as denial of the existence of other responsibilities or practices that are equally important and ethical. Every individual who is a Member or Associate of the New York State Speech-Language-Hearing Association shall abide by this Code of Ethics. Any act that is in violation of the spirit and purpose of this Code of Ethics shall be unethical practice. It is the responsibility of each Member and Associate to advise the Committee on Ethical Practices of instances of possible violation of the principles incorporated in this Code for the Committee’s determination and recommendation. Ethical conduct is described in precepts and rules. Precepts define the ethical responsibilities. Rules are specific statements of minimally acceptable professional conduct.

Ethical Precept I

Members and Associates shall hold paramount the welfare of persons they serve professionally.

Rules
1. Members and Associates shall provide all services in a competent manner.
2. Members and Associates shall use every resource available to ensure that a high quality of service is provided, including referral to specialists within or outside the professions.
3. Members and Associates shall not discriminate in the delivery of services on the basis of race, national origin, age, religion, gender, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation or handicapping condition.
4. Members and Associates shall fully inform the persons they serve of the nature and possible effects of services rendered and products dispensed.
5. Members and Associates shall evaluate the effectiveness of services rendered and products dispensed and shall provide services or dispense products only when benefit can reasonably be expected.
6. Members and Associates shall not guarantee the results of any treatment or procedure, directly or by implication, but they may make a reasonable statement of prognosis.
7. Members and Associates shall not evaluate or treat speech, language, swallowing or hearing disorders solely by correspondence.
8. Members and Associates shall maintain adequate records of services rendered and products dispensed.
9. Members and Associates shall not reveal, without proper authorization, any personal or personal information about the person served. With regard to confidentiality, members and associates shall be have in a manner consistent with current laws applicable to public health and child welfare.
10. Members and Associates shall not charge for services not rendered, nor shall they misrepresent in any fashion, services rendered or products dispensed.
11. Members and Associates shall use persons in research or as subjects of teaching demonstrations only with their informed consent.
12. Members and Associates shall withdraw from professional practice when substance abuse or an emotional or mental disability may adversely affect the quality of services they render.

Ethical Precept II

Members and Associates shall honor their responsibility to achieve and maintain the highest level of professional competence.

Rules
1. Members and Associates shall provide clinical services only when they hold the appropriate credential or when they are in the certification process and are appropriately supervised. Such credentials include New York State licensure, ASHA certification, and/or permanent certification as Teacher of the Speech and Hearing Handicapped, Measurement of such qualifications are provided by the requirements of such programs as the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association’s program for certification of clinical competence in speech language pathology or audiology, the program of certification of Teachers of the Speech and Hearing Handicapped or the program for New York State Licensing.
2. Members and Associates shall only engage in those facets of the professions that are within the scope of their clinical competence, considering their level of education, training, experience and the New York State Licensure Law.
3. Members and Associates shall prohibit any of their professional staff from providing services that are beyond the staff member’s competence, considering the staff member’s level of education, training, and experience and in compliance with the New York State Licensure Law.
4. Members and Associates shall ensure that all equipment used in the provision of services is working appropriately and properly calibrated.

Ethical Precept III

Members and Associates shall honor their responsibility to the public.

Rules
1. Members and Associates shall not misrepresent their training, education, competence, experience or credentials.
2. Members and Associates shall adhere to prevailing professional standards and not misrepresent services or competencies in statements to the public—advertising, announcing, marketing, reporting research, and promoting products.
3. Members and Associates shall not participate in activities that may constitute a conflict of interest.
4. Members and Associates shall not misrepresent diagnostic information, services rendered, or products dispensed or engage in any scheme or artifice to defraud in connection with obtaining payment or reimbursement services or products.
5. Members and Associates shall always provide accurate information to the public about the nature and management of communication disorders, about the professions and about the professional services.
6. Members shall not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, age, religion, gender, gender identification, sex, sexual orientation or handicapping condition. Members will conduct all professional activities in furtherance of this rule to our Code of Ethics.

Ethical Precept IV

Members and Associates shall honor their responsibilities to the professions, their colleagues, students, and members of allied professions. They shall establish harmonious relations with colleagues and other professionals.

Rules
1. Members and Associates shall prohibit anyone under their supervision from engaging in any practice that violates the Code of Ethics.
2. Members and Associates shall not engage in dishonesty, fraud, deceit, misrepresentation or any other form of conduct that adversely reflects on the professions or on the individual’s fitness to serve persons professionally.
3. Members and Associates shall allocate credit only to those who have contributed to a publication, presentation, or product. That credit shall be in proportion to the contribution made and only with the contributor’s consent.
4. Members and Associates shall not provide professional services without exercising independent professional judgment, regardless of referral source or prescription.
5. Members and Associates shall make certain that their statements to colleagues about professional services, research results, and products shall adhere to prevailing professional standards and shall contain no misrepresentations.
6. Members and Associates shall establish and maintain harmonious relations with colleagues and other professionals. Open professional discussion of all theoretical and practical issues is encouraged while maintaining personal and professional respect.
7. Members and Associates shall not discriminate in their relationships with colleagues, students and members of other professions on the basis of race, national origin, age, religion, gender, gender identification, sex, sexual orientation or handicapping condition.
8. Members and Associates who believe that the Code of Ethics has been violated shall inform the Committee on Ethical Practice.
9. Members and Associates shall cooperate fully with the Committee on Ethical Practice in the investigation and adjudication of matters related to the Code of Ethics.

This revised NYSSLHA Code of Ethics is based upon the Code of Ethics of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 1993.