

Principles of the Code

The Postgraduate Student Code of Conduct is based on the following four core principles:

1. Act according to the highest ethical principles at all times
2. Demonstrate professional responsibility and behavior
3. Develop and maintain a high level of competence
4. Be accountable for own actions and self-care

All postgraduate students must formally agree to abide by this Code, any breach of which is taken seriously by the College/institute. If behavior falls outside the standards in this Code, the matter will be referred to an AASTMT Postgraduate Student Conduct Committee for consideration in accordance with AASTMT Conduct Policy.

Principle 1: Act According to the Highest Ethical Principles at all Times

As an AASTMT research/postgraduate student, I commit to acting ethically at all times in the conduct of my research and/or postgraduate study. In my study, I will adhere to standard and ethical principles which incorporate the themes of integrity, honesty, responsibility, training and dissemination. These include but are not limited to adherence to regulations; avoidance of plagiarism or fabrication/falsification of data; appropriateness of authorship; duty of care to self and others; ethical approval practices and accountability.

As a postgraduate student I will adhere to the AASTMT principles of Honesty and Integrity:

- 1.1 The benefits and value of research/study are absolutely dependent on the integrity of research. I acknowledge responsibility for the trustworthiness of my work.
- 1.2 I commit to being honest in the collection, analysis and reporting of findings from my research or program of study.
- 1.3 I will not participate in, condone or allow myself to be associated with dishonesty, misrepresentation or fraud.
- 1.4 I will take credit only for work that I have done or generated and, where appropriate,

give due acknowledgment when referring to the work of others.

1.5 I will not falsify any research information whether in its collection, interpretation or dissemination in any form. I understand that falsification of research information is an extremely serious offence and will be treated with due sanction through AASTMT procedures taking full account of legal concerns.

1.6 I will inform the College/institute immediately if I am the subject of any illegal proceedings.

Principle 2: Demonstrate Professional Responsibility and Behavior

As an postgraduate student, I am part of the broader AASTMT community and as such am expected to conduct myself with integrity and professionalism. When engaged in patient care, the care of animals or humans involved in the research, I must be guided by my responsibility to act in the best interests of all concerned without influence of any personal consideration. As a research or postgraduate student I will abide by the following codes:

Professionalism

2.1 Where ethical approval is required for the conducting of research, I will ensure that appropriate ethical approval is obtained in advance of the study and will exercise appropriate care and confidentiality in the collection, recording and storage of research data.

2.2 I commit to keeping clear, accurate records of all research in ways that will allow verification and replication of my work by others.

2.3 I will avoid any conflict of interest and make relevant parties aware of any potential risk of having my judgment influenced by my personal interests.

2.4 I acknowledge that I am responsible for sharing my data and findings openly and promptly, as soon as I have had an opportunity to establish priority and ownership claims. This applies to dissemination in poster, written report, oral, thesis or other format, regardless of the audience to which the information is presented.

Respect

2.6 I will act with civility, dignity and respect towards all with whom I come into contact

for my research both at AASTMT and its associated centres.

2.7 I will demonstrate appropriate respect for the knowledge, insight, experience and expertise of others.

2.8 I will work in a spirit of fairness towards others.

College Reputation and Identity

2.9 I commit to the disclosure of any information if I believe that someone may be at risk of harm, or involved in damage or theft of AASTMT property or its associated centers.

2.10 I will behave in a manner that does not bring myself, others or AASTMT into disrepute including online activity and the use of social networking services.

2.12 I will avoid using the AASTMT identity to promote self interest that is not in keeping with the values, rules, statutes or interests of AASTMT

2.15 I will engage with third parties under the supervision of an AASTMT supervisor only.

2.16 I will not accept gifts or incentives in any form or engage in any commercial exercise that might harm the reputation of the research endeavor of AASTMT.

Principle 3: Develop and Maintain a High Level of Competence

Competence, the overall integration of knowledge, skills and abilities into professional practice, is dynamic and demands that I keep abreast with change in order to maintain and continually develop my competencies. I will do this by engaging in continuing professional development. Specifically:

3.1 Where necessary, I will make a judgment as to whether I am competent to carry out a particular role or function.

3.2 I will acknowledge any limitations of competence and refuse in such cases to accept delegated or assigned functions, particularly when engaged in activities that involve patients or research subjects.

3.3 I will take measures to develop and maintain the competence necessary for

professional and research practice.

3.4 I will actively engage in appropriate training in the areas required for the conduct of my research and seek out opportunities for development and growth.

3.5 I will seek advice and support when experiencing difficulties related to my learning and research.

Principle 4: Be Accountable for Own Actions and Self-Care

As an AASTMT research/postgraduate student, I commit to being accountable for my own actions and to ensure that I manage care of myself.

4.1 I will comply with all relevant AASTMT health and safety requirements.

4.2 I will be aware of any conditions of my funders or sponsors and will abide by the conditions of my contracts and/or agreements.

4.3 I will be accountable for the proper use of funding over which I have control.

4.5 I will familiarize myself with and abide by intellectual property rights; regulations; relevant contractual agreements regarding disclosure of data and confidential information. .

4.6 I commit to respecting the confidentiality of my colleagues.

4.7 I commit to appropriately disclosing information of concern including seeking prompt and professional advice about my general wellbeing or that of others.

4.8 I will co-operate with formal investigations about myself or others.

Agreement to abide by the AASTMT Postgraduate Student Code of Conduct

Student Name (Block letters)

_____ AASTMT

Registration Number:

_____ Research Program :

e.g. Master, PhD, DBA, (state full name of program)

Year Commencing Postgraduate Program

I have read and understood the AASTMT Postgraduate Student Code of Conduct and I hereby agree that I will comply with all the provisions of this Code.

Student signature

Date _____