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Code of Ethics

Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors

This page refers to the 2017 IPPF/Standards

Click [here](#) for the 2024 IPPF/Global Internal Audit Standards

The Code of Ethics is a statement of principles and expectations governing behaviour of individuals and organisations in the conduct of internal auditing.

Summary

Rule	Principle
Integrity	The integrity of internal auditors establishes trust and thus provides the basis for reliance on their judgement.
Objectivity	Internal auditors exhibit the highest level of professional objectivity in gathering, evaluating, and communicating information about the activity or process being examined. Internal auditors make a balanced assessment of all the relevant circumstances and are not unduly influenced by their own interests or by others in forming judgements.
Confidentiality	Internal auditors respect the value and ownership of information they receive and do not disclose information without appropriate authority unless there is a legal or professional obligation to do so.
Competency	Internal auditors apply the knowledge, skills and experience needed in the performance of internal auditing services.

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[Principle 1: Integrity](#)

[Principle 2: Objectivity](#)

[Principle 3: Confidentiality](#)

[Principle 4: Competency](#)

Published February 2019

Internal audit competencies

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Published July 2018

The Code of Ethics

This is the full text of the Institute's Code of Ethics.

The purpose of the Code is to promote an ethical culture in the profession of internal auditing.

A code of ethics is necessary and appropriate for the profession of internal auditing, founded as it is on the trust placed in its objective assurance about risk management, control, and governance.

The Institute's Code of Ethics provides principles and rules of conduct under four headings:

- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Confidentiality
- Competency

The Rules of Conduct describe behaviour norms expected of internal auditors. These rules are an aid to interpreting the Principles into practical applications and are intended to guide the ethical conduct of internal auditors. Below they are set out together with the principle they interpret.

The Code of Ethics provides guidance to internal auditors serving others. 'Internal auditors' refers to Institute members and those who provide internal auditing services within the definition of internal auditing.

Applicability and enforcement

This Code of Ethics applies to both individuals and entities that provide internal auditing services.

For Institute members, breaches of the Code of Ethics will be evaluated and administered according to The Institute's Disciplinary Procedures. The fact that a particular conduct is not mentioned in the Rules of Conduct does not prevent it from being unacceptable or discreditable, and therefore, the member liable to disciplinary action.

The Code of Ethics

1. Integrity Principle

The integrity of internal auditors establishes trust and thus provides the basis for reliance on their judgement.

Rules of Conduct

Internal auditors:

- 1.1 Shall perform their work with honesty, diligence and responsibility.
- 1.2 Shall observe the law and make disclosures expected by the law and the profession.
- 1.3 Shall not knowingly be a party to any illegal activity, or engage in acts that are discreditable to the profession of internal auditing or to the organisation.
- 1.4 Shall respect and contribute to the legitimate and ethical objectives of the organisation.

2. Objectivity Principle

Internal auditors exhibit the highest level of professional objectivity in gathering, evaluating, and communicating information about the activity or process being examined. Internal auditors make a balanced assessment of all the relevant circumstances and are not unduly influenced by their own interests or by others in forming judgements.

Rules of Conduct

Internal auditors:

- 2.1 Shall not participate in any activity or relationship that may impair or be presumed to impair their unbiased assessment. This participation includes those activities or relationships that may be in conflict with the interests of the organisation.
- 2.2 Shall not accept anything that may impair or be presumed to impair their professional judgement.
- 2.3 Shall disclose all material facts known to them that, if not disclosed, may distort the reporting of activities under review.

3. Confidentiality Principle

Principle Internal auditors respect the value and ownership of information they receive and do not disclose information without appropriate authority unless there is a legal or professional obligation to do so.

Rules of Conduct

Internal auditors:

- 3.1 Shall be prudent in the use and protection of information acquired in the course of their duties.
- 3.2 Shall not use information for any personal gain or in any manner that would be contrary to the law or detrimental to the legitimate and ethical objectives of the organisation.

4. Competency Principle

Internal auditors apply the knowledge, skills and experience needed in the performance of internal auditing services.

Rules of Conduct

Internal auditors:

- 4.1 Shall engage only in those services for which they have the necessary knowledge, skills and

experience.

4.2 Shall perform internal auditing services in accordance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing.

4.3 Shall continually improve their proficiency and the effectiveness and quality of their services.

About the Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics is authoritative guidance for the internal audit profession from the Global Institute of Internal Auditors. It is part of the International Professional Practices Framework.

Members of the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors all agree to follow the Code of Ethics and the [Code of Professional Conduct](#).