

## 07.01 Ethics

Approved February 27, 1995 (MO 44-95)  
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### Policy Statement

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The responsibility for educating and training the future leaders of the state and nation carries with it the duty to adhere to the highest ethical standards and principles. The Board of Regents (board) of The Texas A&M University System (system), therefore, promulgates the following ethical principles and standards to ensure that the board members and all persons employed by the system, regardless of rank or position, are held to the highest ethical principles.

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### Reason for Policy

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Texas Government Code, Section 572.051 requires all state agencies to adopt a written ethics policy consistent with the standards set forth therein.

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### Procedures and Responsibilities

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#### PRINCIPLES OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

System board members and system employees have the responsibility to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards and to embrace the principles of honesty, accountability, respect and trust. They must ensure that their integrity is of the highest caliber and their conduct is indisputable and beyond reproach.

System board members and system employees:

1. Shall not hold financial interests that are in conflict with the conscientious performance of their official duties and responsibilities.
2. Shall not engage in any financial transaction in order to further any private interest using nonpublic information which they obtain in the course of their employment.
3. Shall be honest and ethical in their conduct and performance of their duties.

4. Shall not make unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind the system.
5. Shall not use their public offices for private gain.
6. Shall act impartially and not give preferential treatment to any private or public organization or individual.
7. Shall protect and conserve system resources and shall not use them for other than authorized activities.
8. Shall not engage in outside employment or activities, including seeking or negotiating for employment, that conflict with official duties and responsibilities.
9. Shall promptly disclose fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption in accordance with System Policy *21.04, Control of Fraud, Waste, and Abuse*.
10. Shall adhere to all laws, regulations, and policies, including those that provide equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability.
11. Shall endeavor to avoid any actions that would create the appearance that they are violating the law or the ethical standards of the system.
12. Shall strictly adhere to all system policies and regulations regarding sexual harassment.

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## **Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements**

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[Texas Government Code § 572.051](#)

[System Policy 07.03, Conflicts of Interest, Dual Office Holding, and Political Activities](#)

[System Policy 07.04, Benefits, Gifts and Honoraria](#)

[System Policy 21.04, Control of Fraud, Waste and Abuse](#)

[System Policy 33.04, Use of System Resources](#)

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## **Contact Office**

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