



ABEM Code of Ethics

BACKGROUND

As part of an ongoing review of policies and practices, the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) developed a Code of Ethics in recognition of best practices in nonprofit administration and to provide a set of principles and practices to guide and direct director conduct and decision making.

POLICY

ABEM directors are committed to observing and promoting the highest standards of ethical conduct in the performance of their responsibilities on the Board of Directors (BOD). Directors accept this Code as the expectation for ethical conduct and will abide by the following principles:

Accountability

Directors will:

- Abide by ABEM bylaws, policies, and procedures.
- Exercise reasonable care, good faith, and due diligence in ABEM matters.
- Fully disclose, at the earliest opportunity, information that may result in a perceived conflict of interest.
- Fully disclose, at the earliest opportunity, information about personal and professional conduct that may bring disrepute to ABEM.
- Fully disclose, at the earliest opportunity, information of fact that would have significance in BOD decision making.
- Exercise the powers invested in the BOD for the good of all members of ABEM rather than for her or his own personal benefit or the personal benefit of another.
- Respect and maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information known due to service on the BOD.
- Effectively manage the financial affairs of ABEM.

Professional Excellence

Directors will:

- Ensure the highest standards for the specialty of Emergency Medicine.
- Maintain a high level of professional excellence in activities.
- Maintain professional courtesy, respect, and objectivity in all ABEM activities.
- Strive to uphold these standards and assist other directors in upholding the highest standards of conduct and ethics.

Diversity and Inclusion

Directors will:

- Ensure the right of all ABEM board-certified physicians and candidates to appropriate and effective certification programs without discrimination on the basis of age, disability, gender identity, national origin, race, religion, political affiliation, or sexual orientation, and in accordance with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

- Ensure the composition of directors, volunteers, and staff reflect a diversity of demographic, geographic, and clinical activity characteristics.
- Respect and encourage a diversity of opinions as expressed or acted upon by the ABEM BOD, committees, task forces, and other working groups.
- Promote collaboration, cooperation, and partnership among all ABEM directors, volunteers, and staff.

PROCEDURES

Upon initial election to the ABEM Board of Directors and upon reelection to the Board, directors will acknowledge and agree to this Code of Conduct.

EXCEPTION

None

Reviewed February 2020