



Members of Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) and of the Foundation for Fraternal Excellence (FFE) are motivated by an inner drive to improve the quality of life through the causes they serve. They serve the ideal of philanthropy, are committed to the preservation and enhancement of volunteerism; and (FFE) hold stewardship of these concepts as the overriding direction of their professional life. They recognize their responsibility to ensure that needed resources are vigorously and ethically sought and that the intent of the donor is honestly fulfilled.

To these ends, the FFE members, both individual and business, embrace certain values that they strive to uphold in performing their responsibilities for generating philanthropic support.



*Adopted from the
Association of Fundraising
Professionals, 2020*

PUBLIC TRUST, TRANSPARENCY & CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Members shall:

- 1 not engage in activities that harm the members' organizations, clients or profession or knowingly bring the profession into disrepute.
- 2 not engage in activities that conflict with their fiduciary, ethical and legal obligations to their organizations, clients or profession.
- 3 effectively disclose all potential and actual conflicts of interest; such disclosure does not preclude or imply ethical impropriety.
- 4 not exploit any relationship with a donor, prospect, volunteer, client or employee for the benefit of the members or the members' organizations.
- 5 comply with all applicable local, state, provincial and federal civil and criminal laws.
- 6 establish the nature and purpose of any contractual relationship at the outset and be responsive and available to parties before, during and after any sale of materials and/or services.
- 7 protect the confidentiality of all privileged information relating to the provider/client relationships.

SOLICITATION & STEWARDSHIP OF PHILANTHROPIC FUNDS

Members shall:

- 8 ensure that all solicitation and communication materials are accurate and correctly reflect their organization's mission and use of solicited funds.
- 9 ensure that contributions are used in accordance with donors' intentions.
- 10 ensure proper stewardship of all revenue sources, including timely reports on the use and management of such funds.
- 11 obtain explicit consent by donors before altering the conditions of financial transactions.

FFE MEMBERS ASPIRE TO:

- Practice their profession with integrity, honesty, truthfulness and adherence to the absolute obligation to safeguard the public trust;
- Put philanthropic mission above personal gain;
- Improve their professional knowledge and skills, so that their performance will better serve others;
- Foster cultural diversity and pluralistic values and treat all people with dignity and respect;
- Affirm, through personal giving, a commitment to philanthropy and its role in society;
- Adhere to the spirit as well as the letter of all applicable laws and regulations;
- Advocate within their organizations adherence to all applicable laws and regulations
- Avoid even the appearance of any criminal offense or professional misconduct;
- Bring credit to the fundraising profession by their public demeanor
- Encourage colleagues to embrace and practice these ethical principles and standards; and
- Be aware of the codes of ethics promulgated by other professional organizations that serve philanthropy.

TREATMENT OF CONFIDENTIAL & PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

Members shall:

- 12 not disclose privileged or confidential information to unauthorized parties.
- 13 give donors and clients the opportunity to have their names removed from lists that are sold to, rented to or exchanged with other organizations.
- 14 when stating fundraising results, use accurate and consistent accounting methods that conform to the relevant guidelines adopted by the appropriate authority.

COMPENSATION, BONUSES & FINDER'S FEES

Members shall:

- 15 not accept compensation or enter into a contract that is based on a percentage of contributions; nor shall members accept finder's fees or contingent fees.
- 16 be permitted to accept performance-based compensation, such as bonuses, only if such bonuses are in accord with prevailing practices within the members' own organizations and are not based on a percentage of contributions.
- 17 neither offer nor accept payments or special considerations for the purpose of influencing the selection of products or services.
- 18 not pay finder's fees, commissions or percentage compensation based on contributions.
- 19 meet the legal requirements for the disbursement of funds if they receive funds on behalf of a donor or client.