



OEDC Code of Ethics

Adopted December 5, 2017

The following code of ethics was established by the professional economic developers in the Oklahoma Professional Economic Development Council to ensure a high ethical standard for those involved in economic development in Oklahoma. OEDC presents these guidelines to provide a shared framework for ethical behavior in economic development. All current and prospective members of OEDC are required to acknowledge and sign the OEDC Code of Ethics to remain or become members in good standing. The OEDC code is based on the code of ethics of the International Economic Development Council.

1. Professional economic developers shall carry out their responsibilities in a manner to bring respect to the profession, the economic developer and the economic developer's constituencies.
2. Professional economic developers shall practice with integrity, honesty, and adherence to the trust placed in them both in fact and in appearance.
3. Professional economic developers will hold themselves free of any interest, influence, or relationship in respect to any professional activity when dealing with clients which could impair professional judgement or objectivity or which in the reasonable view of the observer, has that effect.
4. Professional economic developers are mindful that they are representatives of the community and shall represent the overall community interest.
5. Professional economic developers shall keep their community, elected officials, boards and other stakeholders informed about the progress and efforts of the area's economic development program.
6. Professional economic developers shall maintain in confidence the affairs of any client, colleague or organization and shall not disclose confidential information obtained in the course of professional activities.
7. Professional economic developers shall cooperate with peers to the betterment of economic development technique, ability, and practice, and to strive to perfect themselves in their professional abilities through training and educational opportunities.



8. Professional economic developers shall assure that all economic development activities are conducted with equality of opportunity for all segments of the community without regard to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, political affiliation, disability, age, marital status, or socioeconomic status.

9. Professional economic developers shall refrain from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is defined as any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature.

10. Professional economic developers shall not exploit the misfortune of disaster-impacted regions, including actively recruiting businesses from an affected community.

11. Professional economic developers acknowledge that while transactions are driven by the client, they shall not solicit another Oklahoma community's existing businesses, future prospects, or regular events.

12. Professional economic developers shall abide by the principles established in this code and comply with the rules of professional conduct as promulgated by OEDC. Failure to comply with this code may subject the member to sanctions up to and including removal from OEDC.