



International Arts Education & Therapy Development Academic Association(IAETDAA)

Code of Ethics

Chapter I: General Provisions

Article 1: Purpose

This Code of Ethics is formulated to standardize the professional conduct of members of the International Arts Education & Therapy Development Academic Association(IAETDAA), safeguard the rights and interests of service recipients, maintain the professionalism and integrity of the arts in therapy industry, and promote its healthy and orderly development.

Article 2: Core Principles

All members shall adhere to the following core principles:

- 1. Beneficence:** Prioritize the well-being of service recipients, actively promoting their physical and mental health and development.
- 2. Non-maleficence:** Take all necessary measures to avoid causing physical, psychological, or emotional harm to service recipients.
- 3. Autonomy and Informed Consent:** Respect the autonomous decision-making rights of service recipients, ensuring their consent is given voluntarily and based on full understanding.
- 4. Justice:** Treat all service recipients fairly and impartially, without discrimination based on any personal characteristics.
- 5. Integrity and Responsibility:** Maintain honesty and integrity, and take responsibility for one's professional actions and their consequences.
- 6. Professional Boundaries:** Clearly recognize and strictly adhere to the boundaries of one's own competence and qualifications.

Chapter II: Professional Competence and Practice Boundaries



Article 3: Qualifications and Competence

1. Members must provide services within the scope of their competence as defined by their education, training, supervision, and professional certification.
2. Members have a responsibility to maintain and enhance their professional knowledge and skills through continuing education.

Article 4: Core Practice Boundaries: Distinguishing Arts in Therapy from Arts Therapy

This Code strictly defines the scope of services to ensure practice safety and ethical compliance:

Service Aspect	Arts in Therapy	Arts Therapy
Nature of Service	Developmental, Educational, Preventive, Promotive	Clinical, Remedial, Therapeutic
Service Goals	Enhance self-awareness, emotional management, creativity, social integration, stress relief, personal growth	Diagnose and alleviate specific psychological/mental symptoms, address psychological trauma, promote personality integration and clinical rehabilitation
Primary Clientele	General public seeking personal growth, specific communities (e.g., students, corporate employees)	Individuals with clear mental health diagnoses or clinical needs (e.g., depression, anxiety, PTSD)
Qualification Requirements	IAETDAA Certified Arts in Therapy Practitioner or equivalent qualification	State/Regionally licensed psychotherapist, psychiatrist, or IAETDAA Certified Clinical Arts Therapist / Registered Art Therapist
Strict Prohibitions	Arts in Therapy Practitioners	Arts Therapists are strictly



	are strictly prohibited from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diagnosing psychological or mental disorders.• Claiming to provide clinical psychotherapy.• Independently intervening with individuals with severe psychological disorders.	prohibited from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taking on complex cases beyond their clinical competence.
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Article 5: Referral Responsibility

When the needs of a service recipient exceed a member's professional competence or scope of practice, particularly when clinical indicators are present, the member must, acting in the best interests of the service recipient, refer them to a professional with appropriate qualifications (e.g., psychiatrist, clinical psychotherapist) and assist in facilitating the referral process.

Article 6: Compliance with Laws and Regulations

Members must familiarize themselves with, understand, and strictly comply with all applicable laws and regulations in their jurisdiction of practice. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Licensure and Registration Requirements: Ensuring their services are provided within the legal boundaries of their practice jurisdiction and obtaining necessary practice licenses or registrations.

2. Privacy and Data Protection Laws: Strictly adhering to the legal provisions of their practice jurisdiction concerning client information confidentiality and data security.

3. Mandatory Reporting Obligations: Understanding and fulfilling legally mandated reporting duties within their practice jurisdiction (e.g., regarding child or elder abuse, or serious threats to self or others).

4. Business Regulations: Complying with laws and regulations related to business operations, advertising, and taxation.



Where the requirements of this Code of Ethics exceed local legal standards, the higher ethical standard shall be followed. In the event of a conflict between ethical obligations and legal requirements, members have a responsibility to seek legal and ethical consultation to resolve the conflict in an ethical manner, while striving to protect the rights and interests of service recipients to the greatest extent possible.

Chapter III: Necessity and Responsibility of Supervision

Article 7: Mandatory Supervision Requirement

1. Cornerstone of Professional Growth: Ongoing professional supervision is a necessary component for ensuring service quality, upholding ethical practice, and fostering practitioner personal growth, not an optional benefit.

2. Tiered Requirements:

- Certified Arts in Therapy Practitioners / Arts Therapists: Must undergo regular, ongoing professional supervision.
- Trainees and Early-Career Practitioners (first 3 years): Must receive individual supervision at a frequency of no less than once per month.
- Experienced Practitioners: Are encouraged to continuously participate in peer supervision groups or case discussions and should receive professional supervision at least quarterly.

Article 8: Establishment and Maintenance of the Supervisory Relationship

1. Appropriateness: Members are responsible for selecting a qualified supervisor whose professional background, theoretical orientation, and cultural competency match their own practice.

2. Formal Agreement: The supervisory relationship shall be established through a formal Supervision Agreement, clarifying goals, frequency, methods, fees, confidentiality, and the responsibilities of both parties.



3. Active Disclosure: Members shall proactively and openly report difficulties encountered in practice, ethical dilemmas, and personal factors that may affect professional judgment to their supervisor.

Article 9: Responsibilities of the Supervisor

1. Competence: Supervisors must possess professional knowledge and practical experience exceeding that of the supervisee and must have received specialized training in supervision skills.

2. Ethical Guardianship: Supervisors are responsible for identifying and guiding supervisees in handling ethical issues, ensuring their practice does not deviate from ethical standards. When necessary, they have the responsibility to require the supervisee to suspend or adjust their services.

3. Assessment and Feedback: Supervisors shall provide ongoing, constructive, and observation-based feedback and conduct fair assessments of the supervisee's professional competence.

4. Confidentiality and Boundaries: The content of the supervision process is protected by confidentiality, but supervisors must be vigilant about and address situations that may endanger the service recipient or public safety. Supervisors shall maintain clear professional boundaries and avoid engaging in multiple relationships with supervisees.

Chapter IV: Protection of Service Recipient Rights and Interests

Article 10: Informed Consent

Before establishing a service relationship, the following must be explained to the service recipient in clear and understandable language:

1. The nature, goals, methods, and process of the service.
2. The qualifications, role, and limitations of the service provider's scope of practice.
3. Potential benefits and risks.
4. The principle of confidentiality and its exceptions.
5. Fee structure (if applicable).

The service recipient's consent must be voluntary and based on understanding.



Article 11: Confidentiality

1. Disclosing the identity of the service recipient or any content disclosed during the service process is strictly prohibited without their consent.
2. Exceptions to Confidentiality (must be clearly stated during the informed consent process):
 - There is a foreseeable, imminent risk of serious harm to the service recipient or others.
 - Suspected abuse or neglect of a child or vulnerable adult that is legally mandated to report.
 - Disclosure is required by law.

Article 12: Avoiding Multiple Relationships

Non-professional relationships with current service recipients that could impair professional judgment or lead to exploitation (e.g., business, intimate relationships) should be avoided. If unavoidable, clear and firm professional boundaries must be established, and supervision should be sought.

Chapter V: Professional Promotion and Public Communication

Article 13: Ethics in Professional Promotion and Advertising

- 1. Truthfulness Principle:** All professional promotion, advertising, and public communication by members must be truthful and accurate, containing no false, exaggerated, fraudulent, or misleading content.
- 2. Qualification Declaration:** Members must clearly state their professional qualifications, certifications, and affiliated professional organization (e.g., "Certified Arts in Therapy Practitioner of International Arts Education & Therapy Development Academic Association") in their promotions, and must not obscure or imply qualifications or competencies they do not possess.
- 3. Scope of Practice Limitation:** Promotional content must strictly align with the member's certified scope of practice. Arts in Therapy Practitioners must not use clinical terms such as "treatment," "cure," or "diagnosis," to prevent public misunderstanding of the service nature.
- 4. Efficacy Claims:** Absolute promises regarding service outcomes are prohibited. Any statements



about benefits should be based on existing evidence or typical outcomes, and individual differences should be noted.

5. Comparison and Defamation: Unfair competition by disparaging or defaming other peers or professional organizations is prohibited.

Article 14: Social Media and Public Statements

1. When expressing views on public platforms like social media, members shall clearly distinguish between personal opinions and official positions of the Association.
2. When discussing professional fields, statements should be based on recognized knowledge and evidence, avoiding the dissemination of scientifically unverified information.
3. The professional image shall be upheld, and members shall avoid making statements that could damage the reputation of the Association or the profession.

Chapter VI: Intellectual Property and Academic Integrity

Article 15: Respect for Intellectual Property

1. Copyright and Originality: Members must fully respect and comply with copyright laws. Before using the work of others (including artworks, scales, course designs, literature, etc.) in professional activities (e.g., workshops, publications, public lectures), explicit authorization must be obtained or use must fall within "fair use" boundaries, with proper citation and attribution.

2. Cultural Humility and Intangible Cultural Heritage Protection: When utilizing traditional art forms from specific cultures, ethnic groups, or communities, members should adopt an attitude of cultural humility, understand the cultural context and taboos, strive to obtain appropriate permissions, and avoid cultural appropriation and exploitation.

Article 16: Academic Research Ethics

1. Originality and Attribution: Academic research conducted by members must be original, or properly cite existing work. Authorship should be based solely on individuals who have made substantive contributions to the research and should be granted with their consent.



2. Data Authenticity: The authenticity, accuracy, and integrity of research data must be ensured. Fabrication, falsification of data, or plagiarism of others' research results is strictly prohibited.

3. Protection of Research Subjects: All activities involving human subjects must undergo ethical review and obtain the informed consent of the research subjects, ensuring their privacy and well-being are fully protected.

Article 17: Academic Publishing Ethics

When members submit manuscripts to the Global Journal of Arts Education & Therapy or other academic platforms, or serve as editorial board members or reviewers, they must strictly adhere to the following norms:

1. Author Responsibilities:

- **No Simultaneous Submission:** Submitting the same manuscript to multiple journals concurrently is prohibited.
- **No Redundant Publication:** Republishing previously published research findings as new work without proper citation is prohibited.
- **Accurate Citation:** All references must be appropriately cited, avoiding any form of plagiarism.

2. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest: Authors, editorial board members, and reviewers must disclose any conflicts of interest (e.g., financial interests, institutional affiliations) that could influence the research or review process.

3. Reviewer Responsibilities:

- **Confidentiality:** The content of the manuscript under review and the review process must be kept strictly confidential.
- **Objectivity and Impartiality:** Evaluations should be based on the academic merit of the manuscript, unaffected by the author's nationality, gender, seniority, or institutional affiliation.
- **Timely Feedback:** Reviews should be completed within the stipulated timeframe.

Chapter VII: Ethical Decision-Making and Handling Violations



Article 18: Ethical Decision-Making

When facing an ethical dilemma, members should:

1. Identify the problem and the relevant ethical principles.
2. Consult relevant laws, regulations, and this Code.
3. Seek advice from peers or supervisors.
4. Carefully assess the potential impact of various options on the service recipient.
5. Document the decision-making process and rationale.

Article 19: Handling Violations

1. The Association shall establish an Ethics Committee responsible for accepting, investigating, and adjudicating complaints regarding violations of this Code by members.
2. The investigation process shall strive to be fair and confidential. Upon verification, depending on the severity of the circumstances, penalties ranging from a warning, suspension of membership, to permanent expulsion may be imposed, and the violation may be publicly announced.

Chapter VIII: Supplementary Provisions

Article 20: Compliance with the Code

All members are obligated to be familiar with, understand, and strictly comply with this Code of Ethics.

Article 21: Amendment of the Code

Amendments to this Code of Ethics must be proposed by the Association's Board of Directors, deliberated by the Ethics Committee, and approved by the General Assembly before taking effect.

Article 22: Effective Date

This Code of Ethics shall take effect on [January 1, 2026].



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Ethics Committee

International Arts Education & Therapy Development Academic Association

January 1, 2026