

# Code of Ethics

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CORPORATE CODE		
1.	NAME	This document shall be called the Code of Ethics
II.	PURPOSE	The Associated Students (AS) is a nonprofit public benefit corporation operating under the laws of the State of California. AS functions as a student body organization and campus auxiliary pursuant to California Education Code Sections 89300 et seq. and 89900 et seq.
		AS is dedicated to:
		<ol> <li>Facilitating student self-governance within the University.</li> <li>Supporting essential activities beyond regular instructional programs closely related to but not normally included as part of the regular instructional programs at the University</li> <li>Enhancing educational effectiveness, academic excellence, and overall university welfare.</li> <li>Managing fiscal resources to provide instructional services and service aids beyond those covered by state funding</li> <li>Ensuring efficient financial management and operational procedures.</li> <li>Coordinating auxiliary activities in alignment with sound business practices.</li> </ol>
III.	DATE OF EFFECTIVENESS	This policy shall be effective upon approval of the Associated Students (AS) Board of Directors (BOD).
IV.	AMENDMENTS	This code may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the BOD.
V.	DEFINITIONS	It is the intention of the AS to recognize and foster high standards of performance, service, and professionalism among its AS Elected Student Representatives, those serving on councils or committees and volunteers. To this end, we subscribe to the following Code of Ethics.
VI.	GUIDELINES	The AS Elected Student representatives and volunteers of the organization are hereafter referred to as Members.  Members uphold the established core values of the Associated Students in all business operations and decision-making processes, ensuring these principles guide their actions and commitments.

# **Accountability**

- 1. Members of the organization should uphold fairness and integrity in their actions while representing the organization
- 2. They actively promote inclusivity and stand against discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, or disability.
- 3. Members take responsibility for their actions.

- 4. Members must not represent their personal opinions as the AS's official position in public statements.
- 5. Members must notify AS leadership of any issue that could affect AS.
- 6. Members may not obligate AS financially without authorization.
- 7. Respect and protect privileged information to which we have access in the course of our official duties.
- 8. Members recognize their obligation to enhance their personal and professional growth by participating in the meetings and affairs of professional organizations, by sharing ideas and information with colleagues, and by continuing to seek new knowledge and improve skills.

# **Accuracy of Information**

9. Members ensure that communications are accurate, timely, and objective.

### **Resource Management**

10. Members use AS funds, personnel, and equipment responsibly.

# **Legal and Ethical Conduct**

- 11. Members respect laws and advocate for fair regulations.
- 12. They avoid dishonesty, deception, misrepresentation, or unlawful discrimination.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

- 13. Members prioritize AS obligations over personal interests.
- 14. They do not accept gifts from vendors seeking business relationships.
- 15. They abstain from voting on matters that could fiscally affect an alternative source of employment.

## **Interpersonal Conduct**

- 16. Members uphold integrity, honesty, and professionalism in all interactions.
- 17. They communicate openly and respectfully, fostering an inclusive and collaborative environment.
- 18. Confidentiality and discretion are exercised in sensitive matters to build trust and credibility.
- 19. Members approach conflicts with fairness, transparency, and a commitment to resolution.
- 20. Members demonstrate empathy and accountability in their relationships with colleagues, stakeholders, and the community.
- 21. Members view the role of the AS. as part of the educational process of the institution. Members recognize that they assume a variety of roles in their relationships with students as administrators, teachers, employers, role models, advisors, friends, collaborators, fellow students, and supervisors.
- 22. Members view each student as a unique individual with dignity and worth and with the ability to be self-directed
- 23. Members are concerned for the welfare of all students and work to provide and environment which encourages personal growth, effectiveness, creativity, and responsible citizenship.
- 24. Members respect the rights of students and promote responsible behavior.
- 25. Members respect the privacy of students and hold in confidence personal information obtained in the course of the staff/student relationship
- 26. Members recognize the educational and cultural advantages of multiculturalism and encourage diversity in programs and organizational memberships.

**Conclusion** This Code of Ethics serves as a guiding framework to ensure that AS members conduct themselves with professionalism, integrity, and responsibility. By adhering to these principles, members contribute to the mission and success of AS and the University community.

REVISIONS

Revision Approved BOD: 4/30/2025 Approved BOD: 4/12/89