

# Ethical Standards

REQUIRED FOR ALL APPLICANTS

- I shall be dedicated to the concept that problem and disordered gambling is treatable and that efforts with the client shall have as a primary goal the recovery from disordered gambling.
- I shall respect the confidentiality of all records, materials, and communications concerning the client.
- I shall not discriminate among clients, colleagues, or other professionals on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, age, or sexual orientation.
- I shall assess my own personal strengths and limitations, biases and effectiveness, and recognize when it is in the client's best interest to refer them to another individual or program.
- I shall take personal responsibility for continued professional growth through further education and training.
- I shall make a total commitment to provide the highest quality services through personal effort and the utilization of other health professionals or services which may assist the client in his/her recovery.
- I shall never solicit clients, particularly at gambling establishments, Gambler's Anonymous, or other self-help groups.
- I shall not engage in any form of gambling, betting, or wagering with clients.
- I shall limit my practice to my areas of competence. Competency at a minimum must be based on appropriate education, training, or experience. I will refer to other health care resources, legal authorities, or social service agencies when such referrals are in the best interest of the client.
- I shall never begin or continue a professional relationship with a client if impaired due to a mental, emotional, physical, pharmacological, substance, or gambling disorder. If such a condition develops after a professional relationship begins, I shall terminate the relationship in an appropriate manner and assist the client in obtaining services from another provider, or seek supervision if no other providers are available.
- I shall honor the responsibility to myself, my clients, the community, and associates to maintain my physical and mental health and well-being and shall adopt a personal and professional stance, which promotes the well-being of all human beings.
- I shall never accept as clients, persons with whom there is a preexisting or close personal relationship.

- I shall respect the client by maintaining an objective, non-possessive professional relationship at all times which by neither conduct nor conversations could be construed as sexual in nature or lead to sexual allegations.
- I shall never engage in any sexual contact or sexual activity with current or former clients.
- I shall never engage in sexually harassing or demeaning behavior.
- I shall adhere to the ethical standards of my licensure.
- I shall abide by the guidelines set forth in Chapter 75, Standards and Criteria for Certified Problem Gambling Treatment Counselors, of Title 450, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

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*Gambling treatment provider signature*

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*Date*

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*Please print your name as shown on your secure and verifiable document*