



**ADICHUNCHANAGIRI
UNIVERSITY**

(Estd. under ACU Act, 2012 (Karnataka Act No. 18 of 2013)
B G Nagara - 571448, Karnataka, India

ACU

CODE OF CONDUCT



HANDBOOK



ADICHUNCHANAGIRI UNIVERSITY

(Estd. under ACU Act, 2012 (Karnataka Act No. 18 of 2013)
B G Nagara - 571448, Karnataka, India

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Adichunchanagiri University
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About Adichunchanagiri University

The University is situated in a Lush Green Unitary Campus of 67 acres at B.G. Nagara, Nagamangala Tq., Mandya District, Karnataka on the Bangalore – Mangalore National Highway No. 75, 105 Kms from Bangalore, the Capital City of Karnataka.

The University consists of six Constituent colleges in the disciplines of Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing, Engineering, Management, Commerce and Education. The environment-friendly campus has adequate infrastructure and physical facilities for Academics and Research. The campus possesses around 5000 students, 400 teachers and 1800 support staff.

The University employs a broad range of strategies to achieve its Vision, Mission and Objectives to expand the horizon of World Knowledge, Provide instruction, Teaching-Learning, Training, Research and Development at the level of Higher Education in the faculties of Health Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Management and Technology, Humanities & Social Sciences and other Emerging and Thrust areas.

ACU Vision

Education for all with Value Systems of Empathy, Enrichment, Equity, Excellence, Empowerment & Enlightenment to Serve the Society

ACU Mission

- Education to all for Self Reliance, Socio-Economic Change to develop an Inclusive Society with Shared Opportunities & Responsibilities
- Empathy towards the Less Fortunate, the Sick, the Suffering & the Disabled
- Enrichment to acquire Abundant Knowledge, Requisite Skills & Appropriate Attitude
- Excellence for Quality Assurance, Enhancement & Sustenance in Academics & Research to produce Graduates of Global Standards
- Equity for Fairness & Social Justice by providing Equal Opportunities
- Empowerment of Graduates to become Intuitive, Innovative & Inventive
- Enlightenment to attain Wisdom & Virtues in Life to think beyond Self



CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction

The term "Code of Conduct" refers to a body of standards outlining the basic expectations, laws, and duties of a person or an organization. In essence, these practices contribute to the development of an inclusive culture but do not provide a complete answer on their own. Most organizations fundamentally express their values as well as the appropriate behavior norms that go along with those values. The goal of the code of conduct is to identify and forbid behaviors that could subject an organization to legal liability. It also serves to define and promote fundamental ethical concepts that are vital and relevant to the organization.

A code of ethics is a set of rules that professionals can use to conduct themselves honestly and morally. This describes how professionals should address ethically-based difficulties based on the organization's core values and the professional standards that must be upheld in order to support the organization's mission.

This Code of Ethics and Conduct for Students lists both the finest behaviors to encourage students to acquire and the most unacceptable behaviors to condemn.

This Comprehensive Code of Conduct serves as a guiding document that applies to every member of our community – teachers, students, administrators, and non-teaching staff alike. It is a testament to our collective dedication to creating an environment characterized by respect, integrity, accountability, and collaboration.

Our commitment to these shared values serves as the foundation upon which we build relationships, foster personal and professional growth, and contribute to the reputation of our institution. Each one of us plays a pivotal role in upholding these values, which extend across all facets of our lives within and beyond the University.


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This Code of Conduct is not merely a set of rules; it is a reflection of our university identity and aspirations. By embracing the principles outlined within, we demonstrate our devotion to the follow

1. Respect and Inclusion:

We treat one another with respect, embracing the diversity that enriches our community. Discrimination, harassment, and exclusion have no place within our walls.

2. Academic Integrity:

We uphold the highest standards of academic honesty, fostering an environment of trust and intellectual growth. Plagiarism and cheating are contrary to our shared pursuit of knowledge.

3. Patient-Centered Care:

For those involved in patient care, we prioritize compassionate, patient-centred approaches that prioritize well-being and dignity.

4. Ethical Decision-Making:

In all roles and interactions, we make decisions guided by ethical considerations. Transparency, honesty, and integrity are the cornerstones of our actions.

5. Collaborative Learning:

As students and educators, we engage in collaborative learning experiences that promote intellectual curiosity and the exchange of ideas.

6. Professionalism:

We display professionalism in every interaction, from classrooms to clinics, offices to common areas. This includes adherence to appropriate dress codes and behaviours.

7. Accountability:

We acknowledge our individual and collective responsibilities. Our actions have consequences, and we are accountable for our choices.

8. Continuous Improvement:

As a community of lifelong learners, we commit to continuous improvement. We embrace opportunities for growth and innovation.

9. Compliance and Regulations:

We adhere to institutional policies, local laws, and regulations, demonstrating our commitment to lawful and responsible behavior.

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This Comprehensive Code of Conduct is a shared covenant that unites us in our mission to provide exemplary education and healthcare. By understanding, internalizing, and adhering to its principles, we foster an environment that encourages personal excellence, intellectual development, and genuine care for one another.

Enforcement:

Violation of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, which could include verbal counselling, written warning, suspension, or termination of employment, depending on the severity of the violation.

CODE OF CONDUCT

FOR STUDENTS:

Professionalism and Integrity:

Uphold the Highest Standards:

- Maintain a composed and respectful demeanour during all interactions, both within the institution and external environments.
- Demonstrate honesty by providing accurate information and acknowledging mistakes when they occur.
- Take responsibility for your actions, including academic work, clinical practices, and personal conduct.

Equal Respect:

- Treat everyone within the institution – patients, colleagues, staff, and visitors – with the same level of respect, regardless of their role or background.
- Uphold a non-discriminatory attitude, valuing diversity and promoting an inclusive environment.

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Cultural Sensitivity:

- Be aware of cultural differences and practices, adapting your interactions and patient care to respect individual beliefs and preferences.
- Seek to learn about various cultures and their impact on medical care to provide more effective and respectful treatment.

Attendance and Punctuality:

- Attend lectures, practical sessions and clinical postings, punctually and consistently to make the most of your learning opportunities.
- Engage actively in class discussions and activities, contributing to a vibrant academic environment.
- As per the apex body regulations, it is mandatory to have **minimum 80% attendance** in theory and practicals / clinicals to be eligible for the university examinations
- Communicate in advance with HoDs/ faculty, Mentors and wardens, if you are unable to attend class due to valid reasons so as to obtain permission, however attendance will not be provided
- Provide a clear explanation and, when possible, an estimated date of return.

Hygiene:

- Adhere to the prescribed dress code, which includes wearing formal attire, badges, and Apron.
 - **Boys: Formal dress, tie, shoes, Apron and Badge &/ Identity cards.**
 - **Girls: Chudidar / Salwar suit / Saree with Apron, Badge &/ Identity cards and neatly tied hair.**
- Maintain a high standard of personal hygiene, including regular handwashing and adherence to infection control practices.
- Choose clothing that reflects the professionalism of the healthcare environment and minimizes any potential risk of contamination.
- Comply with guidelines for wearing PPE in clinical settings to ensure your safety and the safety of patients.
- Follow the etiquettes of laboratories strictly during practical class and research activities.

Academic Integrity:



- Students are expected to engage proactively in methods of teaching and learning that prioritize their involvement.
- It is essential to adhere strictly to the guidelines provided by teachers
- Practical records, assignments, project reports etc. should be submitted according to the designated schedule.
- Embracing participatory learning: This entails engaging in self-directed learning, attending seminars, contributing to small group discussions, observing demonstrations, and actively participating in tutorials.
- Encouraging experiential learning: Students are encouraged to take an active role during community postings and to learn through involvement in community outreach activities.
- Attendance for all forms of assessments inclusive of formative assessments and internal assessments are compulsory.

Electronics and Vehicles:

- The use of mobile phones and electronic devices within the college premises is strictly forbidden, except when their usage is essential during a teaching session and has been explicitly instructed by faculty members.
- It is expected that students abstain from operating vehicles within the campus area.
- The consumption of alcohol, nicotine, and narcotics is strictly prohibited.
- Your adherence to these guidelines contributes to maintaining a respectful and conducive environment on campus.

Research and Publications:

- Dedicate yourself to producing original and authentic academic and research work that showcases your understanding and mastery of the subject matter.
- Plagiarism is a serious offence and will be considered seriously. Properly cite all sources of information used in your assignments, presentations, and research papers.
- Adhere to citation styles recommended by the university, acknowledging the authors and sources you refer to.
- Avoid using unauthorized materials or sharing your work with others during assessments.

Communication and Behaviour:



- Engage in clear and concise communication, using appropriate language and tone in all interactions.
- Follow communication protocols, such as addressing superiors and colleagues respectfully and maintaining a professional demeanor in emails and discussions.

Zero Tolerance for Harassment:

- Strictly follow the Anti ragging policy of the institution and University
- Ragging of any form is strictly prohibited
- Reject any form of bullying, harassment, or discrimination within the institution.
- Report any instances of harassment you witness or experience promptly to the designated authorities, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment for everyone.

Ethical Guidelines:

- Follow the guidelines of Medical ethics
- Empathy and Compassion: Approach patient with care and genuine empathy, recognizing their emotional and physical needs.
- Show compassion in difficult situations, offering emotional support to patients and their families during times of distress.
- **Patient Confidentiality:**
 - Understand and adhere to patient confidentiality rules, refraining from sharing any patient-related information without proper authorization.
 - Respect the sanctity of patient records and maintain the highest level of privacy when handling patient information
- Seek guidance from mentors or supervisors when facing ethical dilemmas to make informed decisions.

Social Media and Online Conduct:

- All should be cautious about their online presence, refraining from posting inappropriate or damaging content related to the institution.

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FOR TEACHERS:

Exemplary Teaching and Mentorship:

High-Quality Teaching:

- **Prepare Thoroughly:** Dedicate time to thoroughly prepare for lectures and teaching sessions, ensuring you have a deep understanding of the content.
- **Engage Students:** Imbibe student centric method of teaching and learning. Utilize various teaching methods to keep students engaged, such as interactive discussions, case studies, and multimedia presentations.
- **Stay Current:** Stay updated with the latest developments in your field to provide accurate and up-to-date information.

Collaborative Atmosphere:

- **Knowledge Sharing:** Foster an environment where educators freely share their expertise and insights, promoting collaborative learning and cross-disciplinary understanding.
- **Team Teaching:** Collaborate with fellow educators to create interdisciplinary teaching approaches that provide students with well-rounded perspectives.

Mentorship:

- **Approachability:** Create an approachable environment for students to seek your guidance, addressing their concerns and queries with patience and empathy.
- **Share Experience:** Share your professional experiences, both successes and challenges, to provide real-world insights that complement theoretical learning.
- **Academic Guidance:** Assist students in setting academic and career goals, offering advice on course selections, research opportunities, and specialization paths.

Research and Scholarship:

Ethical Research:

- **Research Integrity:** Conduct research with the highest standards of integrity, adhering to ethical guidelines and principles.
- **Transparency:** Clearly document your research methodology, data collection, and analysis processes to ensure transparency and reproducibility.
- **Avoid Plagiarism:** Ensure all research work, including publications and presentations, properly attributes the sources of information to prevent plagiarism.



Student Involvement:

- Encouragement: Inspire and encourage students to actively participate in research activities, promoting their intellectual curiosity and analytical skills.
- Guidance: Provide guidance in selecting research topics, designing experiments, and analyzing data, nurturing students' research skills and critical thinking.

Patient Care and Ethics:

Patient-Centric Care:

- Compassionate Approach: Model compassionate and patient-centred care in clinical settings, fostering an environment of empathy and understanding.
- Collaborative Care: Encourage interdisciplinary collaboration among healthcare professionals to provide holistic patient care.

Ethical Standards:

- Informed Consent: Emphasize the importance of obtaining informed consent from patients before any medical procedure or treatment, ensuring their autonomy and understanding.
- Confidentiality: Reinforce strict adherence to patient confidentiality, educating students about the legal and ethical implications of sharing patient information.

Professional Attire Hygiene:

- Adhere to the prescribed dress code, which includes wearing formal attire, badges & /Identity card, and Apron.
- Choose clothing that reflects the professionalism of the healthcare environment and minimizes any potential risk of contamination.
- Comply with guidelines for wearing PPE in clinical settings to ensure your safety and the safety of patients.
- Follow the etiquettes of laboratories strictly during practical class and research activities.

Professionalism and Punctuality

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- Upholding integrity and demonstrating commitment is the expectation from teaching staff. Their behavior must align with the Institute's standards, setting an example for colleagues under their supervision.
- Compliance with academic and administrative decisions by Management, Principal, or Competent Authority is anticipated from all without opposition.
- Providing incorrect information about qualifications, experience, age, etc., in relation to appointment or promotion is considered misconduct. Non-compliance with these standards will be treated as a violation.
- Teachers are bound to treat all individuals and students courteously and attentively, contributing to the Institute's betterment.
- Modest and respectful interactions between teachers, male and female students, and colleagues are a requisite.
- Engaging in malpractice or unfair means in teaching, examination, or administration is strictly prohibited.
- Institute materials shall not be taken off-campus by teaching staff without prior approval from Management, Principal, or Competent Authority.
- Timeliness is crucial; teaching staff must record their biometric attendance and attendance in provided registers on time.
- During leave periods, teaching staff are responsible for arranging alternate faculty and informing the HOD/Principal in writing.
- Duty fulfilment is mandatory even when leave requests are denied or approved leave is retracted.
- Teachers are required to fulfill their academic responsibilities and tasks related to examinations as assigned. Compensation beyond the prescribed University guidelines will not be provided for internal assessments or home examinations conducted by the Institute.
- Soliciting contributions or fundraising without explicit permission from Management/Principal/Competent Authority is forbidden.
- Accepting gifts, monetary or otherwise, for personal gain is against policy, extending to any Institute-related work.
- Excessive hospitality from students, parents, or Institute suppliers should be declined by teaching staff.



- Engaging in activities, whether through communication, actions, or otherwise, that may incite hatred or animosity between different communities based on religious, social, regional, communal, or other factors, is strictly prohibited for teaching staff.
- Teachers must not discriminate against students on political grounds, nor based on factors such as race, caste, language, or gender. Additionally, they must refrain from instigating students or colleagues against one another or against the university administration and Governing Body.
- Partiality in student assessment, deliberate over or under marking, or targeting students for any reasons is strictly prohibited for teachers.
- Conducting or participating in private coaching classes, whether directly or indirectly, and accepting private tuitions is not permitted for teachers.
- Engaging in any form of malpractice or unfair methods in teaching, examinations, or administration, directly or indirectly, is strictly against policy.
- All shall refrain from using harmful substances or intoxicating drinks within the university premises or while on duty

Constructive Feedback:

- Professional Development: Offer constructive feedback to colleagues, students, and yourself, focusing on areas of improvement while highlighting strengths.
- Growth Mindset: Encourage a growth mindset among students, colleagues, and yourself, embracing challenges as opportunities for learning and advancement.

Social Media and Online Conduct:

- All should be cautious about their online presence, refraining from posting inappropriate or damaging content related to the University.

Reporting Violations:

- If any staff member observes or experiences behaviour that violates this Code of Conduct, they are encouraged to report it through the appropriate channels.

FOR ADMINISTRATORS

Efficiency and Transparency:

Effective Administration:

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- **Resource Allocation:** Ensure resources, including personnel, equipment, and facilities, are optimally allocated to support various departments and functions.
- **Scheduling:** Efficiently manage schedules, rotations, and shifts to maintain operational continuity and meet the needs of patients and staff.
- **Communication Channels:** Establish clear channels of communication to disseminate important information, announcements, and updates to relevant parties.

Transparency:

- **Policy Communication:** Clearly communicate institutional policies, procedures, and guidelines to all stakeholders, ensuring they are well-informed and understand their roles.
- **Decision-Making Process:** Maintain transparency in decision-making by providing rationale and context behind major administrative choices, fostering trust and understanding.

Conflict Resolution:

Timely Resolution:

- **Conflict Identification:** Identify potential conflicts early and address them promptly to prevent escalation and maintain a harmonious work environment.
- **Active Listening:** Listen actively to all parties involved in conflicts, showing empathy and understanding before seeking mutually beneficial solutions.

Mediation:

- **Neutral Mediators:** Introduce neutral mediators, if necessary, to facilitate productive discussions, allowing conflicting parties to express their concerns and find common ground.
- **Conflict Transformation:** Aim to transform conflicts into opportunities for growth, learning, and improved collaboration among staff members.

Patient-Centric Approach:

Patient Welfare:

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- **Safety Protocols:** Establish and enforce safety protocols that prioritize patient safety and well-being, reducing the risk of medical errors and adverse events.
- **Patient Feedback:** Solicit and value patient feedback to identify areas for improvement in administrative processes, facilities, and services.

Supportive Services:

- **Efficient Patient Flow:** Optimize administrative processes to ensure smooth patient flow, minimizing waiting times and enhancing overall patient experience.
- **Effective Communication:** Facilitate clear communication between administrative staff and medical personnel to streamline patient care coordination.

Confidentiality and Data Security:

Data Protection:

- **Secure Storage:** Implement secure systems for storing sensitive patient data, ensuring compliance with legal and ethical standards
- **Regular Audits:** Conduct regular audits of data access and usage to prevent unauthorized access and maintain data integrity.

Information Access:

- **Need-to-Know Principle:** Limit access to confidential information to authorized personnel who require it for their specific roles, preventing unnecessary exposure.
- **Training and Awareness:** Provide training to staff on the importance of data security and confidentiality, raising awareness about potential risks and best practices.

Continuous Improvement:

Professional Development:

- **Training Opportunities:** Encourage staff members to participate in relevant training, workshops, and seminars to enhance their skills and knowledge.
- **Skill Enhancement:** Offer opportunities for staff to acquire new skills, such as software proficiency or leadership training, benefiting both the individual and the institution.

Process Enhancement:

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- Feedback Collection: Gather feedback from staff members about administrative processes, identifying areas where improvements can be made to enhance efficiency.
- Continuous Assessment: Regularly evaluate administrative workflows and procedures, adapting them to evolving needs and adopting best practices for optimal results.

FOR NON-TEACHING STAFF

Professionalism:

- Non-teaching staff members are expected to maintain cleanliness, modesty, sincerity, patience, and politeness in their speech and behaviour.
- Non-teaching staff members are expected to exhibit professionalism at all times, treating colleagues, students, patients, and visitors with respect, dignity, and courtesy.
- Habitual absenteeism or unpunctuality in fulfilling duties will result in potential disciplinary action.
- Non-teaching staff members must be present at their designated work areas promptly and must not leave the premises during duty hours without prior approval from the HoD/ Principal / Competent Authority.
- Non-teaching staff shall avoid excessive hospitality from students, parents, or institute suppliers.
- Cooperation in co-curricular activities and willingness to assist in additional assignments is expected from non-teaching staff.
- Clear and effective communication, both written and verbal, is important in ensuring efficient operations.

Dress code

- Dress code (which includes wearing uniform and identity cards) must be adhered to, ensuring a neat and professional appearance.

Workplace Environment:

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- Creating and maintaining a safe, inclusive, and respectful work environment is essential. Discrimination, harassment, and bullying will not be tolerated.
- Respectful conduct is expected from non-teaching staff members when interacting with colleagues of both genders.
- Insubordination, incitement to insubordination, tampering with records, or falsification of records is a breach of the code of conduct.
- All shall refrain from using harmful substances or intoxicating drinks within the institute premises or while on duty.
- Possession of firearms, dangerous articles, or any form of intimidation detrimental to the institute's security is considered a breach of conduct.

Use of Resources:

- Proper utilization of institution resources, including equipment, supplies, and facilities, is expected. Any misuse or theft will result in disciplinary action.

Attendance and Punctuality:

- Punctuality for duties and signing attendance registers before commencing work is obligatory for all non-teaching staff.
- Regular attendance and punctuality are expected. Notify the Head of the department in advance for all kinds of leaves.

Confidentiality:

- Institute documents, tools, equipment, and materials shall not be taken out or handed over to students or unauthorized individuals without permission from the Management/Principal.
- All staff must maintain strict confidentiality regarding patient information, internal matters, and sensitive institution-related information.

Conflict Resolution:

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- Disagreements should be handled respectfully and professionally. Engage in open and constructive discussions to resolve conflicts.
- Use of indecent language or false allegations against authorities, abusive behaviour towards students or colleagues, is strictly prohibited.
- Criticizing decisions or discussing unrelated matters with colleagues in the presence of others violates the code of conduct

Professional Development:

Staff members are encouraged to pursue continuous learning and professional development opportunities to enhance their skills and contribute to the institution's growth.

Compliance with Policies and Regulations:

- All non-teaching staff must adhere to the institution's policies, procedures, and legal regulations.
- Contributions, fundraising, or association with fund collection for personal benefit without express permission from Management/Principal is not allowed
- Acceptance of gifts for personal gain, including from colleagues, students, or parents, related to institute work is prohibited.

Social Media and Online Conduct:

- Staff members should be cautious about their online presence, refraining from posting inappropriate or damaging content related to the institution.

Reporting Violations:

- If any staff member observes or experiences behaviour that violates this Code of Conduct, they are encouraged to report it through the appropriate channels.

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