

**AMERICAN HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION
MS HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, COMPONENT STATE
(AHIMA / MSHIMA)**

CODE OF ETHICS

PREAMBLE: The HIM Professional has an obligation to demonstrate actions that reflect values, ethical principles, and ethical guidelines. The American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Code of Ethics sets forth these values and principles to guide conduct. The code is relevant to all AHIMA members and credentialed HIM professionals and students, regardless of their professional functions, the settings in which they work, or the populations they serve.

Health Information Management Professionals:

1. Advocate, uphold, and defend the individual's right to privacy and the doctrine of confidentiality in the use and disclosure of information.
2. Put service and the health and welfare of persons before self-interest and conduct themselves in the practice of the profession so as to bring honor to themselves, their peers, and to the health information management profession.
3. Preserve, protect, and secure personal health information in any form or medium and hold in the highest regard the contents of the records and other information of a confidential nature, taking into account the applicable statutes and regulations.
4. Refuse to participate in or conceal unethical practices or procedures.
5. Advance health information management knowledge and practice through continuing education, research, publications and presentations.
6. Recruit and mentor students, peers and colleagues to develop and strengthen professional workforce.
7. Represent the profession accurately to the public.
8. Perform honorably health information management association responsibilities, either appointed or elected, and preserve the confidentiality of any privileged information made known in any official capacity.
9. State truthfully and accurately their credentials, professional education, and experiences.
10. Facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration in situations supporting health information practice.
11. Respect the inherent dignity and worth of every person.

For more information on how to interpret the code of ethics, please visit:

http://library.ahima.org/xpedio/groups/public/documents/ahima/bok1_024277.hcsp?dDoc&dDocName=bok1_024277