



Corporate Code of Ethics

Purpose of this code

This code of ethics provides a guide for the ethical conduct of the members, directors, officers, employees and volunteers of Vaping Advocacy and Education Project Inc (VAEP). This applies to collaboration, actions, decision-making and responsibilities in all things related to VAEP. This is an ethical basis for educating, advocating and interacting with agencies and individuals.

To ensure the facilitation and adherence to these ethics, the Voting Members are responsible for the review of anyone involved with VAEP, including the board of directors, which may have compromised these ethics. The Voting Members will take measures to correct any violation of the code of ethics and act to ensure compliance.

VAEP Corporate Code of Ethics:

1. **Nonmaleficence** means to **not cause harm** or minimizing the possible harm to reach a beneficial outcome. It prohibits causing offence, suffering, or deprivation. Nonmaleficence includes respect for **confidentiality** and privacy. VAEP considers potential harm and its effects in the decision-making process and in the outcomes of its actions.
2. **Beneficence** means to act in a way that aims to **benefit others**. Examples would be preventing harm, reducing harm, protecting rights or improving a situation for others. Beneficence also means to create a safe, inclusive and supportive environment on our social media. Beneficence is the objective of all of VAEP planning and actions.
3. **Autonomy** means to respect a person's **right to make their own decisions** and support their decisions. This prohibits manipulation and coercion. Autonomy includes giving people all of the information they need to make an **informed decision**. Promoting autonomy requires VAEP to stay **current in credible evidence** and providing that evidence without bias.
4. **Justice** means to **treat people fairly** without discrimination or prejudice. It's a respect for people's rights and distribution of resources evenly. Justice prohibits favoritism towards individuals or groups; bullying of anyone at any time; and abuse of any nature. We at VAEP are mindful to communicate respectfully and to facilitate inclusiveness whenever possible.