
Ethics Training for the Workplace

Imagine a world where everyone lived by the same code of ethics. We would all believe the same things were right and wrong; we'd all have the same hard-working gumption; we'd all trust each other implicitly; and we'd never have to reprimand others for their behavior.

This course discusses the importance of having a workplace code of ethics — a code of conduct that is expected and required of all employees. Participants will have the chance to evaluate their own ethical beliefs and discuss how to take a more ethical approach back at the workplace.

Session 1

Define Ethics and Ethical Behavior

- ✔ Create your definition of ethics
- ✔ Spot the behaviors of ethical and unethical people
- ✔ Working by an ethical code is like playing golf
- ✔ Learn 10 benefits of maintaining an ethical code of conduct
- ✔ What is the cost of NOT living by an ethical code?
- ✔ Unethical behavior and its potentially negative effects
- ✔ Goal setting and ethics: When do you know you have reached your targets?

Session 2

Maintain and Support Good Ethics

- ✔ Techniques for building trust and mutual respect
- ✔ Create an environment of openness and transparency
- ✔ Credibility busters to avoid and ways to boost your credibility
- ✔ Identify your core values
- ✔ Create and align your mission statement with your company's
- ✔ Learn how ethics lead to effective decision making
- ✔ Use what-if scenarios to work through real-world dilemmas
- ✔ Ask questions when faced with a difficult person

Session 3

Understanding and Following a Code of Conduct

- ✔ Overview of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX)
- ✔ Company-level controls under SOX
- ✔ Create a fair and equitable workplace
- ✔ Examples of conflicts of interest and how to evaluate one
- ✔ What you should do if you are in, or headed for, a conflict of interest
- ✔ Cyberslacking: what it is and why organizations should be concerned
- ✔ What you can do about cyberslacking

Session 4

Ensuring Compliance

- ✓ Examine your corporate culture and learn how to make ethics a priority
- ✓ Create an infrastructure to support ethical behavior
- ✓ Communicate your ethics policy and identify where your policies fall short
- ✓ Confront a co-worker who commits an ethical breach
- ✓ Know your rights as a whistleblower and the correct process to follow
- ✓ Avoid the slippery slope of ethics violations ■ little things mean a lot
- ✓ Say "no" the first time: Be a person of values who won't be corrupted
- ✓ Take responsibility for your actions: Make personal accountability your key to compliance
- ✓ Create an ethics action plan

