



# ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

## Canons of Ethical Behavior

Revised: September 2016

*Members of onsite evaluation teams play a vital role in the application of ACICS policies, procedures, and standards focused on the evaluation and measurement of institutional performance consistent with the high level of integrity demanded of accreditation. Accordingly, the fulfillment of this role requires a clear and compelling understanding by evaluators of their function in the accreditation process.*

*In fulfilling accreditation responsibilities, an evaluator encounters a variety of issues and situations that require the exercise of fair and impartial judgment. Although the specifics of these issues and situations cannot be readily foreseen, the framework of such ethical principles represented in these Canons of Ethical Behavior is set forth:*

As a volunteer evaluator for the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools,

1. I will conscientiously uphold the integrity of the accreditation process.
2. I will avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety while conducting all activities, including the accepting or offering of any gifts of material value.
3. I will perform all specified duties impartially and diligently.
4. I will preserve the confidentiality of the institutional information to which I am privy. This includes sharing information with an outside consulting agency.
5. I will, while representing ACICS, subscribe to the ACICS policy on Discrimination and Harassment during any and all interactions with the ACICS staff, other members of evaluation teams, or any person affiliated with an institution being evaluated. I have read the ACICS Policy on Discrimination and Harassment and will report to the ACICS President any action I perceive to be discriminatory or harassing.
6. I will refrain from any inappropriate business activity, in fact or appearance, relative to accreditation responsibilities related to serving on any evaluation team at any institution accredited by ACICS.
7. I will not solicit or accept any consulting requests from an institution for which I have served as a team member for a period of at least three years following the visit, regardless of my status as an evaluator. Active solicitation during an on-site review will result in immediate suspension of active service as an evaluator.
8. I will notify ACICS if I accept any contractual agreements, involving compensation, from any ACICS-accredited institutions in order to prospectively remove myself from any ACICS activities relative to that institution.

**By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and will abide by these Canons of Ethical Behavior.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature & Date