



Astronaut Code of Professional Responsibility

This code of professional responsibility of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Astronaut Corps acknowledges our responsibility to the Agency, to the public, and to each other. It directs us in the performance of our professional duties and expresses the basic tenets of ethical and professional conduct. Adherence to this code calls for a constant commitment to honorable behavior and ensures the continued privilege of participation in our Nation's space program.

Competence

In return for the faith that the public places in us, we will continually seek to demonstrate our dedication to professional excellence. We recognize that lives are always at risk in human space flight and make extra effort to know our jobs and to perform them flawlessly. The opportunities, and therefore the responsibilities, that we have been given are a unique privilege that demands the highest level of competence.

Teamwork

We are highly visible members of a large team of skilled and dedicated people. Mission accomplishments belong to the team, not to the individual.

Integrity

Integrity requires us to observe both the rule and the spirit of technical and ethical standards. Honesty and forthrightness in all dealings with co-workers and the public are our foundations. We will strive to avoid the appearance of impropriety and readily acknowledge the limits of our expertise.

Relationships

We establish relationships of trust with our co-workers throughout the NASA community. We will maintain our professional standards in these relationships in both the work and social environments. We will protect and balance the best interests of our co-workers, families, and NASA.

Personal Behavior

We will live in a manner that reflects credit and honor upon our profession. Astronauts will respect and uphold the law and their duties as citizens. Each of us accepts personal responsibility for our conduct.

Stewardship

We are custodians of valuable National resources and will avoid conflicts of interest that could lead to their exploitation. We will not take actions that put people or hardware at unreasonable risk.

Lifelong Commitment

We have a lifelong association with the Astronaut Corps. As such, our responsibilities to each other continue after our time at NASA. We will always consider the implications that our actions have on all active and former Astronauts and we will support each other in our adherence to this code.