

Members' Code of Ethics

Geospatial individuals and organisations in all fields of practice have an ethical responsibility to the community, to their clients and employers, to their peers and to their employees.

The Geospatial Council of Australia requires that all Members demonstrate a sense of duty with integrity, independence, care, and competence.

Geospatial Council Members are required to abide by this Code of Ethics as a condition of their membership and strive to fulfil the goals of:

- supporting and participating in the continuing development of the geospatial profession
- serving with honesty and forthrightness and within areas of their competence
- using their expertise for the enhancement of society and the stewardship of resources.

This Code of Ethics provides a statement of principles which has been adopted by the Board of the Geospatial Council as the basis upon which members shall conduct their activities in order to meet expected standards of community trust. The code is also the framework from which rules of conduct may be developed.

Certification, qualifications and competency

The Code of Ethics underpins the formal qualifications and experience gained by individual Members, providing the whole community with confidence.

Qualifications denote the foundation of knowledge that a Member has achieved through formal education, including postgraduate learning and their years of professional experience.

Designation as a Certified Professional denotes peer recognition of adequate qualifications and competencies for those titles. Competence is demonstrated by application of knowledge and skills to provide service, advice or opinion to clients or employers.

By carefully limiting the professional work undertaken within the limits of qualifications and competence, Members protect the interests of the community, clients, employers and themselves.

Our values

Members of the Geospatial Council of Australia share the same values and professional principles. Technologies and professional standards may develop and change over time, but our foundations are consistently guided by the values of:

- Competence
- Truth
- Innovative practice
- Excellence
- Equality of opportunity
- Social justice
- Ethical behaviour.

Professional principles

- Members' responsibility for the welfare and rights of the community shall come before their responsibility to their profession, sectional or private interests or to other members.
- Members shall act with integrity, dignity and honour to merit the trust of the community and the profession.
- Members shall act with honesty, good faith and equity; and without discrimination; towards all in the community.
- Members shall provide services and advice carefully and diligently only within their areas of competence.
- Members shall develop their knowledge, skills and expertise continuously through their careers, and actively encourage their associates to do likewise.
- Members shall apply their skills and knowledge in the interests of their clients or employers for whom they will act without compromising any other of these principles.
- Members shall take reasonable steps to inform themselves, their clients or employers of the economic, social, environmental or legal consequences which may arise from their actions.
- Members shall inform their clients, colleagues and/or employers of any interest which may be, or may be perceived as being, in conflict with their interests, or which may affect the quality of service or impartial judgement.