



ACVIM Diplomate Code of Conduct

Veterinarians are members of a self-regulated profession and serve the public and society. All veterinarians, including American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) Diplomates, earn and maintain the public's trust through adherence to a code of ethical conduct. The College and the public have a reasonable expectation that ACVIM Diplomates will reflect these values in the care and service they provide their patients and in their interactions with their clients and with each other.

All ACVIM Diplomates and Candidates are required to adhere to this Code of Conduct as a condition of membership and are expected to reaffirm their commitment each year upon membership and certification renewal. ACVIM members serving as regents or volunteer leaders of ACVIM have additional requirements including, but not limited to, ACVIM's Board of Regents & Volunteer Code of Conduct.

Conduct Expectations

The ACVIM requires Diplomates and Candidates to abide by the [American Veterinary Medical Association's Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics](#), including but not limited to:

1. Upholding the dignity and reputation of the veterinary profession and ACVIM, avoiding conduct that may harm its public image.
2. Complying with all applicable laws, regulations, and standards governing veterinary practice.
3. Avoiding conduct that is illegal or unethical, including engaging in lewd, indecent, or inappropriate acts, whether in professional or personal settings, that could negatively impact the reputation of the profession or the ACVIM.
4. Maintaining and continually updating professional knowledge, skills, and certifications to provide the highest quality care, including Maintenance of Credentials (MOC) requirements.
5. Exhibiting professionalism, respect, and ethical behavior in all interactions, both within and outside of clinical settings.
6. Acting with honesty, transparency, and accountability in all professional activities, including representation of credentials, experience, and affiliations.
7. Maintaining appropriate boundaries with clients, colleagues, and employees.
8. Using social media, ACVIM 360, and other communication platforms responsibly, ensuring that statements reflect positively on the profession.



9. Reporting any violations of this Code, legal or ethical breaches, or unprofessional behavior to the ACVIM or the appropriate authority.

Disciplinary Procedures

ACVIM Diplomates, Candidates, and members found to be engaging in unprofessional behavior or unethical conduct are subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the [ACVIM's Bylaws](#), and Policy 106 in the Certification Disciplinary Policies and Procedures as they are updated from time to time.

Failing to comply with any ACVIM policy which may be applicable, including but not limited to, this Code of Conduct and any terms and conditions which may apply to participation in specific ACVIM events and functions. ACVIM policies applicable to all ACVIM members are available on ACVIM's website and include Antitrust Policy; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy; Non-Discrimination and Harassment Policy; Whistleblower Policy, [ACVIM360 Community Rules & Etiquette and Privacy Guidelines](#), and any other policy noted as applicable.

Agreement, Waiver, and Release

The undersigned, as part of initiating or recertifying Diplomate or Candidate status, membership status, access to ACVIM360, registration, or attendance at any ACVIM Function, hereby agrees to abide by this Code of Conduct.

- ☐ I agree to abide by the ACVIM Diplomate and Candidate Code of Conduct (required).