PRINCIPLES OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

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Section 1 - Introduction

The American University of Beirut has developed this policy to support ethical conduct amongst members of the AUB community. For the purposes of this policy, the “AUB community” includes students, faculty, staff, administrators, trainees, alumni, visitors, recipients of health services, and medical center interns/residents located on campus and at AUBMC, AREC, or any other facility or program affiliated with the University. Also included are the dependents and domestic employees of faculty and staff dwelling on campus and at AREC.

Section 2 - Principles of Ethical Conduct

The American University of Beirut is deeply committed to ethical standards which are consistent with the institution’s founding values and ongoing mission to the peoples of the Middle East and beyond. AUB’s mission acknowledges the crucial importance of freedom of thought and expression to the pursuit of excellence in education, research, and service. Academic freedom is a precondition for the vibrant intellectual debates and exchanges involved in knowledge creation and transmission. Our mission also recognizes that fruitful dialogue requires adherence to certain principles, which it identifies, explicitly and implicitly, as equity, diversity, civility, and integrity (“Principles of Ethical Conduct” or “Principles”).

As an institution and as members of a community, we endeavor to live by these Principles, which protect our right to study and work in an environment characterized by mutual esteem and respect. We derive university policies and procedures from these Principles and ask members of our community to abide by them in the spirit of fairness, good judgment, and good faith. We also depend on our community to help us to identify inequities so that we may strive to eliminate them.

The goal of this policy is to strengthen our community by emphasizing our shared responsibility for ethical conduct, both as individuals and as members of groups. Each of us has a role to play in maintaining a dignified and respectful educational and professional environment.

Among other things, members of the AUB community are expected to:

1. Maintain a high level of personal and academic integrity;
2. Value the unique nature of their fellows;
3. Respect differences in personal characteristics and worldview;
4. Behave courteously in everyday interactions and activities;
5. Treat others with impartiality, avoiding favoritism or negative bias;
6. Act in good faith and assume that others will do the same;
7. Communicate respectfully, both verbally and in writing;
8. Respect the property of the University and of others;
9. Adhere to university policies and procedures;
10. Comply with applicable laws and regulations;
11. Refrain from abusing authority or power over others; and
12. Initiate action to correct behavior inconsistent with the Principles when it occurs.

We are all accountable to ourselves, to each other, and to the University for our behavior and actions.

**Section 3 - Other Related Policies**

The Principles of Ethical Conduct establish the framework for a number of related policies of the University designed to promote ethical behavior, safeguard the University’s reputation and assets, and guide members of the AUB community with respect to important responsibilities and accountability. The following non-exclusive list of related policies should be consulted where applicable:

1. [Non-Discrimination Policy](#).
2. [Policies Concerning Sexual and Other Discriminatory Harassment](#).
3. [Code of Business Ethics](#).
4. [Fraud Policy](#).
5. [Employee Conflict of Interest](#).
6. [Trustee Conflict of Interest](#).
7. [Selection of Professional Services](#).
8. [Records Retention](#).