

Statement of Ethical Practice

For members without Australian recognised dietetic qualifications and non-member Accredited Nutritionists (referred to as practitioners in this Statement)

The objective of Dietitians Australia's (DA) *Statements of Ethical Practice* is to identify fundamental values and principles for practitioners.

The *Statement of Ethical Practice* offers guidance when making decisions. It does not specify how to make decisions or to act in particular situations.

Ethical standards help ensure consistent approaches and high standards.

The *Statement of Ethical Practice* indicates to the community, values which practitioners hold.

DA encourages debate and discussion to keep practitioners abreast of contemporary issues.

DA also subscribes to the principles and aspirations of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and other international conventions derived from the Declaration.

A practitioner embraces the values and principles in DA's vision and mission:

DA is the leading voice in Nutrition and Dietetics supporting members, advocating for our profession, and building healthier communities.

VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

Being ethical means:

Practitioners act lawfully and responsibly and are accountable for their decision making.

Practitioners will:

- act within the letter and the spirit of the law and accept the standards of DA.
- be accountable for their decision making and have a moral and legal obligation for the provision of evidence based and competent service delivery.
- have an ethical responsibility to report unsafe and unethical practice and support colleagues who appropriately notify the relevant authorities of such practice.
- respect the collaborative nature of comprehensive health interventions with recognition and respect for the perspective and expertise of other professionals.
- acknowledge the contribution of colleagues and any other sources of original material in their work.

Practitioners will be honest and fair with members of the public, colleagues, employers and employees.

Practitioners will:

- ensure that they do not exploit relationships with clients for emotional, sexual or financial gain.
- identify and manage conflicts of interest.
- not use inaccurate or misleading ways to promote their services or products, or accept undisclosed private financial benefits.
- treat their colleagues with fairness, honesty, courtesy, respect and good faith.
- apply natural justice when dealing with clients and colleagues.
- provide services within the legal requirements of occupational health, welfare and safety and workplace requirements.

Practitioners will respect community/client needs, values, culture and privacy.

Practitioners will:

- ensure provision of non-discriminatory service provision regardless of age, colour, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, race, and mental or physical status.
- respect the right to make informed choices.
- respect confidences and trust in their work relationships.
- promote a professional relationship with employers and clients

Practitioners will maintain their professional competence and provide quality services

Practitioners will:

- recognise the limits of competence, ensuring the client is informed of the most appropriate provider if necessary.
- continually update and extend professional knowledge and skills through such activities as attending professional development or seeking a mentor.
- be guided by the current evidence base.
- understand and respect diversity of nutrition and dietetic practice.
- Promote an ecological, social and economic environment which supports health and well being.