

Institutional Code of Ethics for Research

ABESEC is committed to fostering a culture of integrity, respect, and ethical conduct in all research activities. Researchers should be ethical and honest about their course of action while pursuing research and their response to the actions of other researchers. This Institutional Code of Ethics for Research outlines the principles and guidelines that researchers affiliated with our institution must adhere to in the pursuit of knowledge and innovation.

1. Ethical Principles: All research activities conducted within our institution must uphold the following ethical principles:

- Respect for the dignity, autonomy, and rights of research participants.
- Beneficence, ensuring that research maximizes potential benefits while minimizing risks.
- Justice, ensuring fairness in the selection of research participants and the distribution of research benefits and burdens.
- Honesty and integrity in all aspects of research conduct and reporting.

2. Informed Consent: Researchers must obtain informed consent from all research participants before their involvement in the study. Informed consent involves providing clear and comprehensible information about the study purpose, procedures, risks, benefits, and voluntary nature of participation. Researchers must document informed consent appropriately.

3. Confidentiality and Privacy: Researchers must protect the confidentiality and privacy of research participants by implementing appropriate measures for data collection, storage, and dissemination. Personal identifiable information must be safeguarded, and data should be anonymized whenever possible.

4. Conflict of Interest: Researchers must disclose any conflicts of interest that may influence the conduct or outcomes of the research. Institutional policies and procedures for managing conflicts of interest must be followed to ensure the integrity and objectivity of the research.

5. Research Integrity: Researchers must conduct research with honesty, transparency, and integrity. Fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or other forms of research misconduct

are strictly prohibited. Researchers must report research findings accurately and responsibly.

6. Responsible Authorship and Publication: Authorship credit must be based on substantial contributions to the research design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation. Researchers must adhere to ethical standards for authorship attribution and avoid practices such as plagiarism, redundant publication, or unauthorized use of others' work.

7. Animal Welfare: Research involving animals must adhere to ethical standards for animal care and use. Researchers must minimize animal suffering, ensure appropriate housing and care, and follow regulatory requirements governing animal research.

8. Adherence to Legal and Regulatory Requirements: Researchers must adhere to all applicable legal and regulatory requirements governing research conduct, including federal, state, and institutional policies. Compliance with ethical standards is essential for maintaining the trust and integrity of research conducted within our institution.

9. Publication Guidelines: Our institution provides training and educational resources to researchers to enhance their understanding of research ethics and compliance requirements. Researchers are encouraged to participate in ongoing education and training programs to stay informed about ethical best practices.

10. Compliance and Oversight: Researchers are responsible for complying with the Institutional Code of Ethics for Research and relevant laws, regulations, and professional standards. Institutional authorities will monitor research activities, investigate ethical concerns, and take appropriate action in cases of non-compliance.