

Ethical Conduct

An environment that encourages the highest level of integrity from its members is critical to the university. Therefore, adherence by executive officers, faculty, staff, student employees, and others acting on behalf of the university to the Standards of Ethical Conduct is an integral part of the university's long-range goals of attracting quality students, faculty, and staff; ensuring proper stewardship of its resources; and attracting gifts, grants, and other forms of support. The policy can be found at https://www.dfa.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/policy/vol4_6.pdf

A practice will not be condoned on the grounds that it is "customary," "easy," or "expedient" if it does not meet the standards of ethical conduct; condoning such practices may compromise the integrity and reputation of the university. If asked to act against these standards, one should decline. Members are empowered to say something such as the following: "University policy doesn't allow me to do this. Please discuss this matter further with..." or "I'm uncomfortable with what you've asked me to do and I'd like to

discuss the matter with...." If one acts in good faith, the university will act to protect one from being disciplined or suffering any other consequences for making such a statement.

See also **Romantic and Sexual Relations**

[https://
www.dfa.cornell.
edu/sites/
default/files/
policy/vol4_6.pdf](https://www.dfa.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/policy/vol4_6.pdf)

in **Students and Staff** in this section.