

Professional Ethics for CPAs™ v.3.0

Study Guide & Outline

Credits: 3 CPE Hours | 50-minute hour credit

Required Texts: Course Transcript (Included)

Required Video Lessons: 41 (Included)

Course Format: QAS SS

Subject Classification: Professional and Behavioral Ethics for Certified Public Accountants

Exam Questions: Review - 9 | Final - 15

Prerequisites: None

Advance Preparation: The student should be familiar with the latest version of the *AICPA Code of Professional Conduct*, which took effect December 15, 2014

Course Level: Overview

Course Publication Date: December 2014

Course Updated: July 2017

Instructions to Complete Course:

- Complete Video Lessons.
- If desired, print Course Transcript and supplemental material to follow along
- Open Review Questions and answer questions on Response Sheet
- Grade and score your Review using Review Questions Answer Key
- Open Final Exam and complete Final Exam using Response Sheet
- Submit Final Exam Response Sheet to TeachUcomp, Inc. following instructions in "Submittal Form & Instructions"

Course Introduction

This course will present an overview of the most recent version of the *AICPA Code of Professional Conduct*, which took effect on December 15, 2014. We will explore the ethical principles included with the code, the rules found within the code, situations which threaten a member's compliance with code rules, and the AICPA conceptual framework approach to resolving threats to compliance.

This course will also explore ethical issues related to recent advances in technology, as well as ethical concerns related to social media and networking. In doing so, we will examine how technological failures may cause threats to compliance with the Code of Professional Conduct, how online behavioral choices may give rise to threats, and how a member may apply the conceptual framework approach as a means of resolving threats to compliance.

Course Outline

This course is divided into five chapters that include the following information:

Course Introduction

CHAPTER 1- THE AICPA CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT PRINCIPLES

- 1.1- Chapter One Learning Objectives and Key Terms
- 1.2- Principles Versus Rules
- 1.3- The Responsibilities Principle
- 1.4- The Public Interest Principle
- 1.5- The Integrity Principle
- 1.6- The Objectivity and Independence Principle
- 1.7- The Due Care Principle
- 1.8- The Scope and Nature of Services Principle

CHAPTER 2- THE AICPA CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT RULES

- 2.1- Chapter Two Learning Objectives and Key Terms
- 2.2- The Integrity and Objectivity Rule
- 2.3- The Independence Rule
- 2.4- The General Standards Rule
- 2.5- The Compliance With Standards Rule
- 2.6- The Accounting Principles Rule
- 2.7- The Acts Discreditable Rule
- 2.8- The Contingent Fees Rule
- 2.9- The Commissions and Referral Fees Rule
- 2.10- The Advertising and Other Forms of Solicitation Rule
- 2.11- The Confidential Client Information Rule
- 2.12- The Form of Organization and Name Rule

CHAPTER 3- THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF THE CODE

- 3.1- Chapter Three Learning Objectives and Key Terms
- 3.2- Threats to Compliance with Code Rules
- 3.3- Identifying and Evaluating Threats
- 3.4- Categories of Safeguards
- 3.5- The Effectiveness of Safeguards
- 3.6- Applying the Conceptual Framework
- 3.7- Illustrated Examples
- 3.8- Interpretations Under the Independence Rule

CHAPTER 4- ETHICAL CONFLICTS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- 4.1- Chapter Four Learning Objectives and Key Terms
- 4.2- Ethical Conflicts
- 4.3- Conflicts of Interest
- 4.4- Examples of Conflicts of Interest
- 4.5- Applying the Conceptual Framework When a Conflict Occurs
- 4.6- Safeguards Related to Conflicts

4.7- Disclosures Related to Conflicts of Interest

CHAPTER 5- PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

5.1- Chapter Five Learning Objectives and Key Terms

5.2- Compliance Concerns Related to Technology

5.3- Compliance Concerns Related to Social Media and Networking

5.4- Safeguards Related to Technological and Social Media Threats

5.5- Conclusion

Learning Objectives

Each chapter contains two learning objectives. By the end of this course, you should be able to do all of the following:

1. Identify the differences between rules and principles
2. Identify the six principles of professional conduct found in the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct
3. Identify the eleven rules found in the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct
4. Identify which rules apply to members in public practice, which rules apply to members in business, and which rules apply to “other members” of the AICPA
5. Identify the three-step approach to applying the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct’s conceptual framework
6. Identify seven categories of threats to compliance with the rules found in the code
7. Recognize the circumstances which create ethical conflicts and conflicts of interest
8. Identify the process of obtaining disclosures related to conflicts of interest
9. Identify the various modern technologies that can cause threats to compliance with the Code of Professional Conduct
10. Identify social media and networking behaviors which can cause threats to compliance with the code

Additional Information about TeachUcomp, Inc.

This Study Guide and Outline provides information about a specific TeachUcomp course. For more information about TeachUcomp, Inc. and specific company policies, please visit our General FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) Page: <http://www.teachucomp.com/faq/> The FAQ page provides information about all of the following TeachUcomp policies:

- Program Registration Requirements
- TeachUcomp, Inc.’s Refund Policy
- TeachUcomp, Inc.’s Complaint Resolution Policy

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