



CODE OF BEST PRACTICES

All AQVE-accredited professionals must strive, in their practice, to apply the following criteria:

- Be honest, sincere, and provide professional services with integrity and diligence;
- Be sufficiently qualified and possess the skills, knowledge, and experience required to perform the requested services;
- Continuously seek to improve their professional knowledge and skills;
- Serve the client diligently, conscientiously, and effectively;
- Respect the confidentiality of the client's affairs and of business information obtained in the course of their audit practice, unless otherwise required by law, and not use such information for personal gain;
- Remain free from any influence, interest, or relationship that could impair their judgment, independence, or objectivity in the practice of their profession;
- Commit to remaining honest, conscientious, and forthright in all communications related to the practice of their profession;
- Not be associated with any report, statement, or representation that proves to be false or misleading;
- To behave with respect and integrity towards peers;
- Refrain from advertising that could be misleading or detrimental to the practice;
- Constantly strive to increase public respect for the environmental auditing profession;
- Must inform clients if they do not hold professional liability insurance.

ADHERENCE TO THE CODE OF BEST PRACTICES

Candidates for certification must demonstrate a thorough knowledge and understanding of *the AQVE Code of Best Practices* and must also commit themselves to observing it and being bound by it as AQVE-accredited professionals.

Adopted by the Board of Directors in 1997