

## **Lesson n 04: Principles for Professional Ethics of School Psychologists**

As a core value, all school psychologists adhere to ethical standards of practice at all levels of service delivery. The two major professional associations in school psychology, the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and the American Psychological Association (APA), have developed codes of ethics and professional standards for the delivery of service. The National Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers, and other professional organizations have their own codes of ethics.

All members of these organizations agree to abide by these ethical principles and professional standards.

School psychologists who are members of the Connecticut Association of School Psychologists (CASP) or the National School Psychology Certification System are bound to abide by the NASP's Principles for Professional Ethics. 12 School psychologists who are members of the Connecticut Psychological Association are bound to abide by APA's Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct. 13 Members of APA and NASP also agree to consider the Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing<sup>14</sup> in

judging whether their assessment procedures meet technical standards. Consistent with applicable law, these principles serve as a basis for decisions on issues pertaining to certification and employment.

## **Adjudication**

NASP will investigate and adjudicate violations of the Principles for Professional Ethics. The Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services represent the position of NASP regarding best practices in the delivery of comprehensive school psychological services but are not adjudicated.

The APA will adjudicate violations of its Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct.

## **Other Resources**

Aside from the ethical codes and standards of NASP and APA, school psychologists sometimes consult other sources of guidance for ethical and professional practice. Articles in professional journals published by NASP and APA provide timely information and discussion of specialized topics. NASP and APA publish position statements that

represent the official views of those organizations on a variety of subjects.

### **Best Practices**

School psychologists who are members of at least one professional organization abide by its ethical principles and guidelines. All school psychologists, whether they are members of a professional association or not, should be familiar with these principles and guidelines.

### **REFERENCES:**

1. <https://www.nasponline.org/standards-and-certification/professional-ethics>
2. <https://www.apa.org/ethics/code/index.aspx>
3. <http://www.teststandards.org/>