

51A Middle Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

Phone: 800-588-7039

<u>contact@bhfe.com</u> <u>www.bhfe.com</u>

Course Information

Course Title: Professional Rules of Conduct #381124

Number of continuing education credit hours recommended for this course:

CPA: 2 (All states)

In accordance with the standards of the National Registry of CPE Sponsors, CPE credits have

been granted based on a 50-minute hour.

National Registry of CPE Sponsors ID Number: 107615.

Sponsor numbers for states requiring sponsor registration

Florida Division of Certified Public Accountancy: 0004761 (Ethics #0011467)

Hawaii Board of Accountancy: 14003

New York State Board of Accountancy: 002146 Ohio State Board of Accountancy: CPE .51PSR Pennsylvania Board of Accountancy: PX178025 Texas State Board of Accountancy: 009349

Course Description

The accountant may sometimes encounter ethical issues during his or her professional activities, and needs to understand how to respond to them. The *Professional Rules of Conduct* course addresses the essential code of conduct issues, as derived from the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct and Treasury Department regulations. Topics covered include acts discreditable to the profession, conflicts of interest, ethical standards in tax practice, and how the AICPA's Conceptual Framework can be applied to ethical issues that are not directly addressed by the AICPA.

Course Content

Publication/Revision date: 2/20/2022.

Author: Steven M. Bragg, CPA.

Final exam (online): Ten questions (multiple-choice).

Program Delivery Method: NASBA QAS Self-Study (interactive)

Subject Codes/Field of Study

NASBA (CPA): Regulatory Ethics

Course Level, Prerequisites, and Advance Preparation Requirements

Program level: Overview Prerequisites: None

Advance Preparation: None

Instructions for Taking This Course

- Log in to your secure account at www.bhfe.com. Go to "My Account."
- You must complete this course within one year of purchase (If the course is "Expired," contact us and we will add the latest edition of the course to your account (no charge).
- To retain the course-PDF after completion (for future reference) and to enable enhanced navigation: From "My Account," Download and save the course-PDF to your computer. This will enable the search function (Menu: Edit>Find) and bookmarks (icon on left side of document window).
- Complete the course by following the learning objectives listed for the course, studying the text, and, if included, studying the review questions at the end of each major section (or at the end of the course).
- Once you have completed studying the course and you are confident that the learning objectives have been met, answer the final exam questions (online).

Instructions for Taking the Online Exam

- Log in to your secure account at www.bhfe.com. Go to "My Account."
- A passing grade of at least 70% is required on the exam for this course.
- You will have three attempts to pass the exam (call or email us after three unsuccessful attempts for instructions).
- The exam is not timed, and it does not need to be completed in one session.
- For a printed copy of the exam questions, open the exam and press "Print Exam."
- Once you pass the exam, the results (correct/incorrect answers) and certificate of completion appear in "My Account." A confirmation email is also sent.
- CFP Board and IRS credit hours, if applicable, are reported on Tuesdays and at the end of the month.

Have a question? Call us at 800-588-7039 or email us at contact@bhfe.com.

Learning Assignment & Objectives

- Describe the different principles contained within the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct.
- Specify the different types of harassment.
- Describe the types of discreditable acts stated in the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct.
- Explain the accountant's obligations related to the release of confidential information.
- Specify the policies that may apply to the release of confidential information.
- Identify the characteristics of false or misleading promotional efforts.
- Describe the obligations of the accountant in relation to the delivery of records to a client.
- Specify the obligations of the accountant in regard to conflicts of interest.
- Describe the different types of threats to an accountant's ability to comply with the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct.

About the Author

Steven Bragg, CPA, has been the chief financial officer or controller of four companies, as well as a consulting manager at Ernst & Young. He received a master's degree in finance from Bentley College, an MBA from Babson College, and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Maine. He has been a two-time president of the Colorado Mountain Club, and is an avid alpine skier, mountain biker, and certified master diver. Mr. Bragg resides in Centennial, Colorado. He has written more than 250 books and courses, including *New Controller Guidebook*, *GAAP Guidebook*, and *Payroll Management*.

Copyright © 2022 by AccountingTools, Inc. All rights reserved.

Published by AccountingTools, Inc., Centennial, Colorado.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, except as permitted under Section 107 or 108 of the 1976 United States Copyright Act, without the prior written permission of the Publisher. Requests to the Publisher for permission should be addressed to Steven M. Bragg, 6727 E. Fremont Place, Centennial, CO 80112.

Limit of Liability/Disclaimer of Warranty: While the publisher and author have used their best efforts in preparing this book, they make no representations or warranties with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the contents of this book and specifically disclaim any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. No warranty may be created or extended by written sales materials. The advice and strategies contained herein may not be suitable for your situation. You should consult with a professional where appropriate. Neither the publisher nor author shall be liable for any loss of profit or any other commercial damages, including but not limited to special, incidental, consequential, or other damages.

Table of Contents

Professional Rules of Conduct	1
Introduction	1
Public Interest Principle	2
Discrimination and Harassment in Employment Practices	2
Solicitation or Disclosure of CPA Examination Questions and Answers	3
Failure to File a Tax Return or Pay a Tax Liability	
Negligence in the Preparation of Financial Statements or Records	4
Failure to Follow Government Rules and Regulations	4
Failure to Follow Government Auditing Standards	5
Improperly Limiting Liability	5
Disclosing Confidential Information without Permission	
False or Misleading Representations	
False or Misleading use of the CPA Credential	
Failure to Return Client Records	
Failure to Gain Approval to Shift Files	13
Integrity and Objectivity	
Conflicts of Interest	14
Due Care	
The Conceptual Framework	
Ethical Conflicts	
Ethical Standards in Tax Practice	
The Impact of Accountant Biases	
Additional Sources of Ethical Requirements	
Summary	24
Review Questions	25
Answers to Review Questions	26
Glossary	28
Index	30