



Registrant Code of Ethics

Applies to Audiologists, Hearing Instrument Practitioners, and Speech-Language Pathologists

The College of Health and Care Professionals of BC was created on June 28, 2024 through the amalgamation of seven health regulatory colleges:

- College of Dietitians of British Columbia
- College of Occupational Therapists of British Columbia
- College of Optometrists of British Columbia
- College of Opticians of British Columbia
- College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia
- College of Psychologists of British Columbia
- College of Speech and Hearing Health Professionals of British Columbia

All current requirements for standards of clinical and ethical practice issued by the seven colleges remain in place upon amalgamation.

This document was created by the College of Speech and Hearing Health Professionals of British Columbia and will be updated to reflect the amalgamation.



Standard Category:	Standard Title:	Standard #:
Professional Standard	Registrant Code of Ethics	SOP-PROF-08
Regulation Bylaw Reference:		HPA Reference:
		Section 19
Authorization:	Date Approved:	Last Revised:
CSHBC Board		June 29, 2020

PURPOSE

The ethical conduct of Registered Audiologists (RAUDs), Hearing Instrument Practitioners (RHIPs), and Speech-Language Pathologists (RSLPs) is one of the most important factors in the delivery of quality care and is one of the public's primary expectations of health care professionals. Continued public trust in the self-regulated, speech and hearing health professions is dependent on individual registrants adhering to the values and ethical principles of the College of Speech and Hearing Health Professional of British Columbia (CSHBC). CSHBC's Bylaws, standards of practice, and related clinical tools (e.g. clinical policies) are integrally linked to the principles of the CSHBC *Registrant Code of Ethics*. Registrants must adhere to, and not circumvent, the CSHBC *Registrant Code of Ethics*.

VALUES

Beneficence: Maximize benefits and minimize harm for the welfare of the client.

Client Autonomy: Understand and respect clients' rights to make informed decisions based on their personal values and beliefs.

Fairness: Treat all individuals, clients, colleagues, and third parties without prejudice or discrimination in a just and equitable manner.

Integrity: Be truthful; behave with honour and decency while upholding the CSHBC standards of practice.

PRINCIPLES

CSHBC registrants must:

- A. Provide appropriate, safe and timely care that is provided with respect and without discrimination.
- B. Ensure that the health and wellbeing of the client is their primary concern.
- C. Maintain the confidentiality and privacy of client information and records as required by applicable legislation and the College standards of practice for all services provided.



- D.** Provide clients with accurate information about the nature and management of their communication and related disorders.
- E.** Recognize and accept their accountabilities and responsibilities to the public.
- F.** Avoid activities that constitute a conflict of interest and seek to resolve any conflict(s) promptly and permanently.
- G.** Comply with the CSHBC Quality Assurance & Professional Practice (QAPP) program, standards of practice, and related Clinical Decision Support Tools (e.g. clinical policies, clinical practice guidelines, and clinical protocols).
- H.** Maintain current knowledge and demonstrate ongoing competency throughout their career.
- I.** Maintain a safe and healthy practice environment for the provision of client care and services.
- J.** Maintain appropriate and respectful boundaries in relationships with clients.
- K.** Respect the client's right to be cared for by their choice of care provider, where possible, including care provided by communication health assistants and students.
- L.** Respect previous and concurrent services provided by other registrants or other health care providers.
- M.** Recognize professional and clinical limitations and refer clients to other registrants and health care providers as appropriate.
- N.** Conduct any teaching or research activities in keeping with the College's clinical practice and professional standards, and fully inform the client about the nature and possible effects of all activities.
- O.** Never overstate or embellish their abilities or qualifications nor engage in any activity, including marketing, that could mislead a reasonable person.
- P.** Not exploit any clinical relationship with a client or others to further their own physical, emotional, financial, political or business interests at the expense of the best interest of the client.
- Q.** Not secure or accept referrals, by providing (directly or indirectly) any incentives (financial or otherwise) to colleagues or other professionals.