



Position Statement

Ethics in Nursing

The Idaho Board of Nursing is committed to elevating the practice of nursing by regulating, supporting, and empowering nurses to perform at the highest level of their licensure to protect the public's health, safety, and well-being.

One aspect of this commitment is to recognize the importance of nursing Standards of Conduct and specifically, Professional Responsibility as outlined in IDAPA 24.34.01.101.05. In providing nursing care, every nurse is obligated to respect and consider individual human dignity, health problems, personal attributes, national origin, and handicaps while providing care to those they serve.

The Board formally recognizes the current American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics for Nurses to describe expected standards for professional nurses. The 9 provisions of the ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses are listed below. Provisions 1-3 reiterate the fundamental values and commitments of the nurse, Provisions 4-6 identify the boundaries of duty and loyalty, and Provisions 7-9 describe the duties of the nurse that extend beyond individual patient encounters.

1. The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.
2. The nurse's primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, community or population.
3. The nurse promotes, advocates for, and protects the rights, health and safety of the patient.
4. The nurse has authority, accountability and responsibility for nursing practice; makes decisions; and takes action consistent with the obligation to promote health and to provide optimal care.
5. The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to preserve health and safety, preserve wholeness of character and integrity, maintain competence, and continue personal and professional growth. to maintain competence and continue personal and professional growth.
6. The nurse, through individual and collective effort, establishes, maintains, and improves the ethical environment of the work setting and conditions of employment that are conducive to safe, quality health care.
7. The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public to protect in the advancement of the profession through contributions to practice, education, administration, and knowledge development.
8. The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public to promote human rights, promote health diplomacy, and reduce health disparities.
9. The profession of nursing, collectively through its professional organizations, must articulate nursing values, maintain the integrity of the profession and integrate principles of social justice into nursing and health policy.

Adopted:
11/6/2020

The Board believes that by further clarifying and re-enforcing the importance of the foundational values of nursing, nurses are supported in providing consistently respectful, humane, and dignified care throughout Idaho.