

Certified Professional Agronomist Engineer (CPAE) Code of Ethics

All individuals certified under the International Certified Crop Adviser (ICCA) program must subscribe to the Code of Ethics. The ICCA Standards & Ethics Committee periodically reviews the current Code of Ethics.

Article I. Preamble

1. The privilege of professional practice imposes obligations of responsibility as well as professional knowledge. The ICCA program certifies the credentials of individuals through the exchange of information with the Confea/Crea System in Brazil.
2. When using the CPAE designation, a CPAE shall use professional conduct in all communications relating to this vocation including but not limited to emails, blogs, and social media.
3. The ICCA program will grant the title of Certificate to individuals who meet the requirements for regular registration with the Confea/Crea System, with proven professional experience through the respective Technical Responsibility Notes and/or Technical Collection Certificates, tests and continuing education of the ICCA program.
4. Certified Professional Agronomist Engineers (hereafter called CPAEs), at the request of a client or employer, must disclose the information used to gain certification. CPAEs who knowingly misrepresent their credentials will face disciplinary action.

Article II. Relation of Professional to the Public

1. A CPAE shall avoid and discourage sensational, exaggerated, or unwarranted statements that might induce participation in unsound enterprises.
2. A CPAE should not give a professional opinion, or make a recommendation, if he or she does not have the information or knowledge that would be expected of a certified professional, considering the purpose for which the opinion or recommendation would be desired; and the degree of completeness of the information on which it is based must be clear.
3. A CPAE shall not issue a false statement or false information even if directed to do so by employer or client.

Article III. Relation of Professional to Employer and Client

1. A CPAE shall protect, to the fullest extent possible, the interest of the employer or client insofar as such interest is consistent with the law and professional obligations and ethics.
2. A CPAE who finds that obligations to the employer or client conflict with their professional obligation or ethics should work to have such objectionable conditions corrected.
3. A CPAE shall not use, directly or indirectly, the employer or client's information in any way that would violate their confidentiality.
4. A CPAE shall not divulge information given in confidence.

5. A CPAE retained by one client shall not accept, without the client's written consent, an engagement by another if the interests of the two are in any manner conflicting.
6. A CPAE who has made an investigation for any employer or client shall not seek to profit economically from the information gained, unless written permission to do so is granted, or until it is clear that there can no longer be a conflict of interest with the original employer or client.
7. A CPAE shall recommend or advise the employer or client to cooperate with other experts and government agency officials.
8. A CPAE protects the interest of a client by recommending only products and services that are in the best interest of the client and the public.
9. A CPAE ensures credibility by disclosing to clients how he/she will be compensated for providing referrals to the clients.

Article IV. Relation of Professionals to Each Other

1. A CPAE shall not falsely or maliciously attempt to injure the reputation of another.
2. A CPAE shall freely give credit for work done by others, to whom the credit is due, and shall refrain from plagiarism of oral and written communications and shall not knowingly accept credit rightfully due to another person.
3. A CPAE shall not use the advantage of public employment (e.g. university, government) to compete unfairly with other professionals.
4. A CPAE shall endeavor to cooperate with others in the profession and encourage the ethical dissemination of technical knowledge.

Article V. Duty to the Profession

1. A CPAE shall aid in exclusion from certification, those who have not followed this Code of Ethics or who do not have the required requirements.
2. A CPAE shall uphold this Code of Ethics by precept and example and encourage, by counsel and advice, other CPAEs to do the same.
3. A CPAE who becomes aware of a deviation from this Code by another CPAE must bring this fact to the attention of the CPAE Board.

Approved by
International CCA Board and CONFEA/CREA June 2025

I have read the Certified Professional Agronomist Engineer Code of Ethics and agree to adhere to this code.

Print Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____