



3344-65-16 Conflict of interest and ethics.

- (A) All employees of Cleveland state university, as public servants, shall observe the highest ethical standard in discharging their responsibilities. Employees shall avoid any activity or interest that might reflect unfavorably on an individual's, or the university's, stewardship of public resources, and shall observe those provisions of the Ohio ethics laws that apply to them including, but not limited to, its conflict of interest restrictions.
- (B) Any purchase transaction of the university is a public contract. With few exceptions, section 2921.42 of the Revised Code prohibits any employee of the university from having an interest in the profits or benefits of a contract entered into by the university; and prohibits the use of one's position to secure authorization of any public contract in which the public official, a member of the public official's family, or any of the public official's business associates has an interest. Statute and CSU policies prohibit the university from buying goods or services from a university employee unless the cost is less than that of any other known source. In addition to the legal implications, it is important that as a public institution, we avoid transactions that might appear to be a conflict, even if technically no conflict exists.
- (C) The university also subscribes to the following National association of educational buyers code of ethics:
 - (1) To decline personal gifts or gratuities.
 - (2) To give first consideration to the objectives and policies of our institution.
 - (3) To cooperate with trade and industrial associations, governmental and private agencies engaged in the promotion and development of sound business methods.

- (4) To demand honesty in sales representation whether offered through the medium of a verbal or written statement, an advertisement, or a sample of the products.
- (5) To grant all competitive bidders equal consideration; to regard each transaction on its own merits; to foster and promote fair, ethical, and legal trade practices.
- (6) To use only by consent original ideas and designs devised by one or more vendor for competitive purchasing purposes, or to pay them for services as a consultant.
- (7) To accord a prompt and courteous reception insofar as conditions permit to all who call on legitimate business missions.

Policy Name: Conflict of interest and ethics.

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