

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



DISABILITY SERVICE - CODE OF ETHICAL PRACTICE

The following is the Code of Ethical Practice for Disability Advisors employed by the Western Sydney University's Disability Service. Although it can be seen that this code reflects the values and is consistent with that of the main professional groups' codes (APS, AASW, AAOT), it neither overrides nor diminishes their relevance to practice.

The purpose of this code is to establish minimum standards of ethical practice for Disability Advisors for the information and protection of those using their services.

1. Disability Advisors respect the essential individuality, worth and dignity of all people and promote this value in their work.
2. Disability Advisors recognise and respect diversity among people and oppose discrimination and all forms of harassment.
3. Disability Advisors respect the privacy of their clients and preserve the confidentiality of information acquired in the course of their work. Any limits to confidentiality will be explained to each client prior to service delivery.
4. Disability Advisors respect the rights of their clients including the right to informed consent.
5. Disability Advisors respect the dignity and worth of each person, their culture and context, and their right to determine a course of action in life in accordance with a plan developed and chosen by the client.
6. Disability Advisors recognise and acknowledge right of client to access and participate in education to their potential.
7. Disability Advisors endeavour to build a strong relationship with the client based on, trust, compassion and mutual respect.
8. Disability Advisors are committed to empowering the client and the promotion of independence.
9. Disability Advisors act on the premise that their primary obligation is to the welfare of their clients and this responsibility takes precedence over personal interests or profit.
10. Disability Advisors take steps to maintain and develop their knowledge, skills and competence through continuing professional development.
11. Disability Advisors faced with situations extending beyond their competence seek supervision and/or refer to other appropriate professionals.
12. Disability Advisors abide by the Code of Ethics of the professional body under which they practice.
13. Disability Advisors operate within the Western Sydney University Policy framework and The University Code of Conduct and abide by the laws of society in which they practice.