

ACO Code of Ethics

Effective March 1, 2015
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ALBERTA college of OPTOMETRISTS

The Alberta College of Optometrists Code of Ethics is established under the authority of Section 133 of the Health Professions Act. It is a guide that defines appropriate ethical conduct that optometrists must follow when providing professional services to patients. It also serves to inform the public of the ethical principles by which professional behavior is assessed.

It is the Ideal, the Resolve, and the Duty of the Members of the Alberta College of Optometrists

TO PRACTICE based on their expert clinical knowledge of the life sciences and always have as their primary concern the health and welfare of both patient and the public;

TO RENDER services with equal diligence to all patients;

TO ENHANCE continuously, throughout their professional life, their educational and technical proficiency for the benefit of their patients;

TO ENDEAVOR TO ACHIEVE appropriate outcomes in the interest of each patient's needs;

TO REFER a patient when any procedure is beyond their competence or training and to freely consult with colleagues and members of other professions whenever such consultations are in the patient's best interest;

TO MAINTAIN, except where required or authorized by law, the confidence and privacy of all information concerning a patient and to use such data only for the benefit of the patient;

TO BE ACCOUNTABLE to their patients and to their colleagues;

TO CONDUCT themselves as exemplary citizens and be truthful and forthright in all professional matters;

TO EDUCATE their patients and the public with respect to eye care issues and the profession of optometry; and,

TO MAINTAIN their practices in keeping with the professional Standards of Practice.