Code of Ethics

The ASPA Code of Ethics is a statement of the aspirations and high expectations of public servants. These practices serve as a guide to behavior for members of ASPA in carrying out its principles. The Code and these practices are intended to be used as a whole and in conjunction with one another. An ethical public servant will consider the full range of standards and values that are relevant to handling a specific matter and be committed to upholding both the spirit and the letter of this code.

ASPA members are committed to:

1. **Advance the Public Interest**
    Promote the interests of the public and put service to the public above service to oneself.

2. **Uphold the Constitution and the Law**
    Respect and support government constitutions and laws, while seeking to improve laws and policies to promote the public good.

3. **Promote Democratic Participation**
    Inform the public and encourage active engagement in governance. Be open, transparent and responsive, and respect and assist all persons in their dealings with public organizations.

4. **Strengthen Social Equity**
    Treat all persons with fairness, justice, and equality and respect individual differences, rights, and freedoms. Promote affirmative action and other initiatives to reduce unfairness, injustice, and inequality in society.

5. **Fully Inform and Advise**
    Provide accurate, honest, comprehensive, and timely information and advice to elected and appointed officials and governing board members, and to staff members in your organization.

6. **Demonstrate Personal Integrity**
    Adhere to the highest standards of conduct to inspire public confidence and trust in public service.

7. **Promote Ethical Organizations**
    Strive to attain the highest standards of ethics, stewardship, and public service in organizations that serve the public.

8. **Advance Professional Excellence**
    Strengthen personal capabilities to act competently and ethically and encourage the professional development of others.

Find more information online at www.aspanet.org/ethics