

# Chattanooga State Community College

## Code of Ethics

### Statement of Core Values

Chattanooga State affirms its people as its highest value. We wish our students to be infused with the lived ideals we ourselves practice, ideals of cooperation, reasonable discourse, social responsibility, curiosity, ongoing learning, and collaboration. Hence, we wish to practice a form of participatory democratic life that is respectful of all persons, that fosters productive relationships between persons at all levels of the institution, and that reinforces the pleasures of executing good work worth doing. We operationalize these aspirations through the following commitments:

- I. To value those who are transparent in their dealings with others
- II. To value those who work for the best interests of students
- III. To value those with a positive outlook whose contributions, even criticisms, are offered in the spirit of continuous change for the better
- IV. To value those who promote good relationships within the college community and beyond
- V. To value those who execute their work with a living sense of the college's educational mission

### Purpose of the Code of Ethics

Chattanooga State faculty, staff and students are required to adhere to the principles of the Code of Ethics as they conduct the business of the college. The Code is an expression of the College's ethical values and is intended to provide guidance to ensure that the College fosters an environment of uncompromising integrity.

### Code of Ethical Conduct

#### **Chattanooga State faculty, staff and students shall:**

- I. Uphold the highest standards of intellectual honesty and integrity in the conduct of teaching, advising, research, and service
- II. Act as good stewards of the resources and information entrusted to our care
- III. Perform assigned duties and professional responsibilities in an honest and ethical manner so as to further the Chattanooga State mission
- IV. Treat fellow employees, students and the public with dignity and respect
- V. Refrain from discriminating against, harassing or intimidating others
- VI. Comply with all federal and state laws and regulations and policies of the Tennessee Board of Regents as well as Chattanooga State's policies, including those that prohibit discrimination regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability
- VII. Protect human health and safety and the environment in all Chattanooga State operations and activities
- VIII. Report inappropriate conduct to the proper authorities in accordance with College policy; refrain from retaliating against those who do report violations; and cooperate fully with authorized investigations

#### **Questions and Reporting Violations**

Employees and students can discuss questions concerning this policy with supervisors, department heads, or advisors. For further information or to report possible violations, they may contact

- Chattanooga State Internal Audit 423-697-4749: Questions or violations of any kind, including reports of fraud, waste and abuse or violations of law or policies
- Chattanooga State AAO/ADA Director 423-697-4457: Questions or violations of non-discrimination laws and policies
- TBR Internal Audit 615-366-4407 or [ReportFraud@tbr.state.tn.us](mailto:ReportFraud@tbr.state.tn.us): Reports of fraud, waste and abuse or violations of law or policies
- Tennessee Comptroller's Hotline for Fraud Waste and Abuse 1-800-232-5454