

## ETHICS REQUIREMENT

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

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#### **Why did AACAP implement this requirement?**

In 2008, AACAP Council agreed to require ethics education due to the importance of ethics to the child and adolescent psychiatry practice. Child and adolescent psychiatrists routinely encounter ethical issues whether they are clinicians, researchers or administrators. The requirement is a marker/ reminder of the importance of ethics and that it is intrinsic to all areas of practice.

#### **What is the ethics education requirement?**

One hour (60 minutes) of education in ethics every two years satisfies the requirement.

#### **How do members prove that they have met the requirement?**

The expectation is that members agree that this content is essential and generally are exposed to enough education in this area to easily satisfy the requirement. Members simply answer the ethics question on the membership dues renewal notice (honor system).

#### **Ethics educational activity from what years count?**

Activities from 2008 and later count towards the requirement. Generally, the requirement is every two years as specified on the dues renewal notice.

#### **Can members get ethics CME?**

Members can get CME if they participate in an ethics activity that grants CME credit. CME credit is not currently required.

#### **What ethics educational activities count for this requirement?**

Participation in one or more of the following activities will satisfy the requirement. The activity must be related to children and adolescents and it cannot be risk management.

##### AACAP

- Reading [AACAP Code of Ethics](#) or [Conflict of Interest](#) policies
- [Annual Meeting](#) ethics presentations (at the meeting, on tape, on website)
- [Lifelong Learning Institute](#) ethics presentations and articles-at meeting, reading, [modules](#), tapes
- [Board Review Course](#) sections related to ethics (course or listen to audio recordings)
- Local child and adolescent psychiatry presentations/sessions that covers ethics for at least 60 minutes
- [AACAP News](#) ethics material (i.e., ethics columns, other relevant material)
- [JAACAP](#) articles with ethics foci or relevance

##### Other Sources (must be about children and adolescents)

- [American Academy of Pediatrics](#): ethics policies, articles in Pediatrics, annual meeting presentations (meeting, tapes)
- Local pediatric and child psychiatric ethics presentations

- Ethics information, presentations, and material provided by children's hospitals
- Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America – 2 ethics volumes 1995, 2008 as well as other ethics articles in other volumes
- CITI training on research ethics education (offered online by the University of Miami)
- Participating in hospital/ institutional IRB or ethics committees/boards
- Ethics activities required for medical licensure
- Writing ethics material
- Participating in reviewing and editing ethics material

**What happens if members answer no to the ethics education question?**

Members who have not fulfilled the requirement are expected to complete it within the next year.

**Will there be other educational activities that can satisfy the requirement?**

The AACAP Ethics Committee is working on developing additional ethics educational material. As a part of the AACAP website revision, there is an [Ethics Resource Center](#) that has four general areas as well as material on specific topics. Webinars on various ethics topics are ongoing. The Ethics Committee works closely with AACAP publications such as AACAP News and JAACAP to develop consistent opportunities for members to access information on ethics relevant to the practice of child and adolescent psychiatry.