

Professional Social Work Ethics is designed to equip professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate complex ethical dilemmas and challenges in child welfare practice. This training is typically delivered through a combination of classroom instruction, case studies, discussions, and practical experience in the field. The training's primary goal is to prepare child welfare professionals to make informed, ethical decisions and provide compassionate, effective services while upholding the highest standards of professional social work ethics.

Proposed Objectives

1. **Foundations of Ethics:** Develop a strong foundation in the core ethical principles that guide social work practice, such as respect for the inherent worth and dignity of all individuals, client self-determination, and the importance of maintaining confidentiality.
2. **Legal and Ethical Frameworks:** Understand the legal and ethical frameworks governing child welfare, including relevant laws and regulations, as well as the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics.
3. **Ethical Decision-Making Models:** Learn and practice various ethical decision-making models to help professionals analyze complex situations, identify ethical issues, and make sound ethical decisions.
4. **Confidentiality and Informed Consent:** Understand the importance of maintaining confidentiality while also recognizing situations where informed consent and mandated reporting are necessary.
5. **Boundary Management:** Learn how to establish and maintain appropriate professional boundaries with clients, colleagues, and other stakeholders to ensure ethical practice.
6. **Client Rights and Self-Determination:** Respect and uphold the rights of clients, including their right to self-determination, participation in the decision-making process, and the pursuit of their best interests.
7. **Accountability and Supervision:** Understand the importance of professional accountability and the role of supervision in ensuring ethical practice, self-reflection, and ongoing growth.
8. **Ethical Challenges in Child Welfare:** Explore common ethical challenges specific to child welfare, such as balancing the best interests of the child with family preservation, addressing concerns related to child abuse and neglect, and managing conflicts of interest.