

## Code of Ethics for University of Notre Dame Computer Science Graduates

### 1. Personal Responsibilities:

- a. Honesty is key: Notre Dame students and graduates should never intentionally pass off work done by others as their own. We are expected to set an example, and should represent Notre Dame well.
- b. Have integrity. Hold yourself to a higher standard: your actions when no one is watching should not differ from those when everyone is watching. Honor contracts and obligations while holding yourself accountable and without reproach.
- c. Maintain a healthy body and mind. Be aware of choices that may affect your mental and physical health (and therefore your work), and seek to continually improve yourself. Seek out help if necessary. You have a lot of potential to do great things for others in life. The more you improve yourself, the better your position will be to improve the world. If you waste your time and make choices that negatively impact your health, you reduce your potential.

### 2. Professional Responsibilities

- a. Your work should positively impact the human race. As Notre Dame students and graduates, you are not expected to simply refrain from harming others. You should actively attempt to make the world a better place through your work and your daily life.
- b. Contribute your best work. You should never submit work without making your absolute best effort to ensure it's quality. Your work may be used in critical systems where mistakes may lead to catastrophes; perform sufficient testing on your software and implement robust quality assurance. Even if your work is not used in critical systems, you should not burden yourself or others with inadequate work that will need to be updated.
- c. Actively seek to check the work of others when building on their foundations. It is important that code is examined before being used.
- d. Maintain skills as the coding world changes.
- e. When given the choice between what is legal and what is ethical, always choose ethical. Only violate legality when all legal means to maintaining ethical responsibilities have been exhausted.
- f. Contribute in areas where you have the knowledge and experience to do so meaningfully. Trial and error are encouraged, but not when the safety, property or security of others is at risk.

### 3. Social Responsibilities:

- a. Honor Confidentiality, Privacy, and Intellectual property rights: These are the representations of others' property and private knowledge and information, and should be respected as such. These bastions of privacy and ownership should not be violated without dire reason to do so.
- b. Be aware of your importance in society. Live and act in a manner that should be emulated by others in technology fields and abroad.

- c.** Your work and contributions should enhance life and the world around you in some way, through the pursuit of knowledge or direct interaction.
- d.** Ensure that you are honest and forthcoming with information regarding what user data will be obtained and how it will be used.
- e.** Assist those who are less fortunate when you are able to. You should maintain a routine of charity, and should not neglect your social responsibility to help others.
- f.** Give honest and thorough witness of systems and resources you interact with. Errors that could affect the wellbeing of others must be recognised and resolved to the best of your ability.
- g.** Represent the field of computer science and engineering to the best of your ability, morally and ethically. Be a role model to the others in your field and those around you. Help to establish a culture of responsibility and transparency.