

# 16.01 System Ethics and Compliance Program



Revised [April 11, 2019](#) (MO -2019)  
Next Scheduled Review: April 11, 2024  
Click to view [Revision History](#).

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## Policy Summary

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The Board of Regents (board) of The Texas A&M University System (system) is committed to the highest standards of integrity in all areas of ethics and compliance.

This policy provides a framework for (a) achieving the highest level of compliance with applicable ethical, legal, regulatory and system standards and requirements by faculty, staff and students in the system, and (b) promoting an organizational culture that encourages ethical conduct and a commitment to compliance with such standards and requirements.

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## Definitions

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Click to view [Definitions](#).

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## Policy

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### 1. SYSTEM ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

The chancellor will appoint a system ethics and compliance officer (SECO). SECO will report to the general counsel and have access to the chancellor and to the board, through the audit committee, regarding the status of such activities. SECO will coordinate with the System Office of General Counsel and System Internal Audit, as needed. SECO will be responsible for working with other system offices and members to establish and maintain effective ethics and compliance programs and activities in the system. SECO will undertake the following activities:

- (a) Develop, implement and monitor the system-wide ethics and compliance program;
- (b) Assist in the development, implementation and/or monitoring of each member's ethics and compliance program;
- (c) Develop or enhance ethics and compliance education and training opportunities throughout the system;
- (d) Serve as a source of ethics and compliance information for employees, management and the System Internal Audit Department;
- (e) Assist member ethics and compliance officers and functionally responsible offices in overcoming barriers to achieve the highest level of ethics and compliance;

- (f) Collaborate with members to develop innovative and effective ways to mitigate ethics and compliance risks;
  - (g) Conduct and direct compliance reviews and investigations; and
  - (h) Provide assistance to members in the conduct of investigations relating to compliance matters.
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## **Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements**

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[Tex. Educ. Code § 51.971, Compliance Program](#)

[Federal Sentencing Guidelines Manual, § 8B2.1, Effective Compliance and Ethics Program](#)

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## **Member Rule Requirements**

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A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

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## **Contact Office**

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Ethics and Compliance  
(979) 458-6162