

Learning Lab Day 1: Code of Ethics Assignment

Developed by Esther Carlson, MSW, LCSW-C (2025)

Read the **Preamble, Purpose of the NASW Code of Ethics, Ethical Principles, and the first two Ethical Standards** and answer the following reflection questions. Please respond to each question with your original reflections in at least 4-5 sentences.

Once completed, please upload your responses in Word or PDF format into the **Electronic Practicum Notebook** by clicking “Supplemental Docs” on the left-hand side, then “Upload Supplemental Documents.” The completed assignment is due by **Monday, September 8th at 5pm**.

Resources to Read and Review the NASW Code of Ethics

- NASW Code of Ethics Link: <https://www.socialworkers.org/About/Ethics/Code-of-Ethics/Code-of-Ethics-English>
- Social Work Exam Strategies - NASW Code of Ethics Simplified: Essential for ASWB Exam Success (LMSW, LCSW, LICSW) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJ2r-mIjcKA>
 - From Beginning to 22:25 covers sections required for this assignment

Preamble, Purpose of the NASW Code of Ethics, Ethical Principles

1. How would you define the terms professional and ethical based on your understanding of the Preamble, Purpose, and Ethical Principles of the NASW Code of Ethics?

Ethical Standard 1: Social Workers' Ethical Responsibilities to Clients

1. What does "promoting well-being" mean to you in the context of social work? How can you contribute to “promoting well-being” in the context of the mission and the work of your practicum agency/department? (Note: You can research the mission of your practicum site using their website, if you do not know it at this time).
2. What challenges may you face in supporting a client’s well-being if their values, beliefs, and/or aspects of their identity differ from your own? Using the code of ethics as a guide, how will you work to address those challenges in your work with clients and during your practicum?

Ethical Standard 2: Social Workers Ethical Responsibilities to Colleagues

1. Using the Code of Ethics as a guide, what are some tangible ideas you have for your first week in placement to foster respectful and professional relationships with your colleagues? What are some tangible ideas you have of activity, behavior, or communication that could negatively impact the ability to foster respectful relationships with colleagues?
2. What ideas do you have for addressing potential conflicts with colleagues, whether related to work responsibilities, communication issues, or differences in professional opinions as you begin your practicum as an MSW Student?

(Questions formulated with the assistance of Open AI ChatGPT 4 – February 10, 2025)