



SCI-MAA CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS

CODES OF CONDUCT FOR NON-REGISTERED HEALTH PRACTITIONERS AND CERTAIN HEALTH ORGANISATIONS

Non-registered health practitioners are practitioners who are not registered under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW) No 86a (National Law), or are registered but provide services unconnected to their registration. The National Law establishes a registration scheme for 16 health professionals, such as medical practitioners, nurses, midwives and dentists, who are subject to the codes and guidelines issued by the relevant National Board, such as the Medical Board of Australia.

However, not all health practitioners are registered health practitioners. Non-registered health practitioners are regulated in NSW via a negative licensing scheme established under the Public Health Act 2010 and the Health Care Complaints Act 1993.

Under the negative licensing scheme, non-registered health practitioners must comply with the Code of Conduct for non-registered practitioners.

The Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC) is empowered to investigate a complaint that a non-registered practitioner has breached the code of conduct and is a risk to public health and safety. The HCCC can make an order to either prohibit the person or organisation from practice or place conditions on the practice (a prohibition order) if satisfied that a complaint has been substantiated and the practitioner represents a risk to the health or safety of members of the public. During an investigation of a non-registered health practitioner or relevant health organisation, the HCCC also has the power to make an interim prohibition order where it is necessary to do so to protect the public from serious risks of harm.

In 2020, the legislation was amended to extend the regime to relevant health organisations. That is, relevant health organisations must comply with a code of conduct and the HCCC can investigate and take action, including issuing a prohibition order, against a relevant health organisation who breaches the code and poses a risk to the public.

The code of conduct for non-registered health practitioners and relevant health organisations are an important tool to ensure that non-registered health practitioners and relevant health organisations provide health services in a responsible and ethical manner. Likewise, the powers of the HCCC to investigate complaints and ban non-registered health practitioners and relevant health organisations from practising are an important consumer safeguard.

There is a current code in place for non-registered health practitioners which has been in place since 2012. There is no existing code in place for relevant health organisations.

*Source: Codes of conduct for non-registered health practitioners and certain health organisations
Impact assessment statement*

Complaints can be made to the Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC) about alleged breaches of the code of conduct and the Commission can investigate. If a practitioner or relevant health organisation is found to have breached the code of conduct, the HCCC may make a prohibition order against the practitioner or health organisation. Further information about the role and powers of the HCCC can be found at [Health Care Complaints Commission](#).



About the Health Care Complaints Commission

The Health Care Complaints Commission is an independent body that acts to protect public health and safety by resolving, investigating and prosecuting complaints about health care. The Commission's overarching aim is to protect the health and safety of individuals and the community.

Service in other languages

The Commission uses interpreting services to assist people whose first language is not English. If you need an interpreter, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450 and ask to be connected to the Health Care Complaints Commission on 1800 043 159 (9.00 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday).

More information

For more information about the Health Care Complaints Commission, please visit the website www.hccc.nsw.gov.au.

Contact the Health Care Complaints Commission

To make a complaint, visit www.hccc.nsw.gov.au and click 'make a complaint'.

For any questions or to seek more information, our enquiry service can be contacted on:

- (02) 9219 7444, select option 1
- Toll Free in NSW: 1800 043 159, select option 1
- TTY (02) 9219 7555
- by email to hccc@hccc.nsw.gov.au
- Postal address: PO Box K549 HAYMARKET NSW 1240.

Under section 15 of Schedule 3 and section 10 of Schedule 4 of the Public Health Regulation 2022, most practitioners and relevant health organisations must display a copy of:

- the [Code of conduct non-registered health practitioners](#) or [Code of conduct for health organisations](#), and
- a [Notice for non-registered health practitioners](#) or [Notice for health organisations](#), approved by the Secretary, giving information about the way in which clients can make complaints to the HCCC.

These must be displayed at:

- the premises where the practitioner carries out their practice, or
- the premises at which the organisation provides health services, or
- on the website of the practitioner or organisation.

Current as at: Thursday 1 September 2022

Source: NSW Health (Website), Public Health Legislation



GUIDING AND GUARDING PRINCIPLES

- a) Respect and honour the Sacred Feminine and Masculine Principles, acknowledging their complementary wisdom and protection.
- b) Prioritise the well-being, safety, and dignity of all Healers (participants).
- c) Maintain confidentiality and discretion in all interactions.
- d) Uphold the highest standards of integrity, professionalism, and compassion.
- e) Embody the Principles of Animism, honouring the interconnectedness of all beings, as well as:

Practices

- i. Nature meditation and contemplation.
- ii. Ancestor reverence and honouring.
- iii. Honour the Land, Nature, Gaia.
- iv. Conduct rituals and ceremonies to honour the land, elements, and ancestors.

Mindset

- i. Recognize the interconnectedness of all beings, human and non-human.
- ii. Cultivate empathy and compassion for all living beings.
- iii. Honour the cycles of nature (e.g., seasons, phases of the moon).
- iv. Understand that all actions have consequences and impact the web of life.
- v. Embody a sense of reciprocity and gratitude towards the natural world.

Education

- i. Explore animistic philosophies and practices.
- ii. Share knowledge with others to promote understanding.



GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICE

- a) Conduct sessions with integrity, respect, and empathy.
- b) Provide accurate information and informed consent.
- c) Refrain from exploiting or manipulating clients for personal gain.
- d) Maintain appropriate boundaries and professional relationships.

Boundaries

- iii. Clear communication: Establish clear expectations and boundaries with clients.
- iv. Physical boundaries: Maintain professional physical boundaries.
- v. Emotional boundaries: Avoid emotional entanglements or dependencies.
- vi. Time boundaries: Set realistic session lengths and schedules.
- vii. Confidentiality: Maintain client confidentiality.

Professional Relationships

- viii. Respectful client relationships: Treat clients with respect, empathy, and compassion.
 - ix. Collaborative teamwork: Work collaboratively with fellow Guides and Guardians.
 - x. Supervision: Seek guidance from experienced mentors or supervisors.
 - xi. Continuing education: Stay updated on best practices and industry developments.
 - xii. Self-care: Prioritize personal well-being and self-care.
- e) Continuously develop and update knowledge and skills.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- a) Adhere to SCI-MAA policies and procedures.
- b) Participate in ongoing education and training.
- c) Collaborate with fellow Guides and Guardians.
- d) Contribute to the growth and development of the SCI-MAA community.
- e) Support the SCI-MAA Code of Ethics.



Consequences of Non-Compliance

Failure to adhere to this Code of Ethics may result in disciplinary action such as:

MINOR TO MODERATE INFRACTIONS

- i. Warning letter from SCI-MAA Admin Team.
- ii. Mandatory training or education with a SCI-MAA Guide Level 03.
- iii. Temporary suspension (e.g., 30 days) to hold any SCI-MAA one-to-one sessions, workshops, retreats and/or festivals.
- iv. Probationary period (e.g., 6 months) to hold any SCI-MAA one-to-one sessions, workshops, retreats and/or festivals.

SERIOUS INFRACTIONS

- i. Permanent revocation of any SCI-MAA certification.
- ii. Expulsion from the SCI-MAA community (Weekend retreat, Workshops, and/or Festivals).
- iii. Legal action (e.g., lawsuits, complaints).
- iv. Public disclosure of misconduct.

Examples of Serious Infractions

1. Sexual misconduct or harassment.
2. Emotional or physical harm to clients.
3. Breach of confidentiality.
4. Unauthorized use of SCI-MAA trademarks or materials inadequately to your level of expertise.
5. Gross negligence or incompetence.

Appeals Process

- i. 1. Written appeal to the SCI-MAA Board (SCI-MAA Guides and Guardians).
- ii. 2. Hearing with a disciplinary committee (SCI-MAA Guides and Guardians).
- iii. 3. Review of evidence and testimony.
- iv. 4. Final decision and notification.

This Code of Ethics may be amended or updated as necessary.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By becoming a certified SCI-MAA Guide or Guardian, I acknowledge my commitment to upholding these principles and guidelines.