PROFESSIONALISM IN THE WORKPLACE

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Defining Professionalism:

“The standards, views, and behaviors of one who engages in an activity to make his/her livelihood.”
*Webster’s Dictionary*

“Professionalism is a focused, accountable, confident, competent, motivation toward a particular goal, with respect for hierarchy and humanity, less emotion.”
*Edward Toupin*

Professionalism is Judged By:

- Attitude
- Appearance
- Appropriateness
- Communication (verbal, non-verbal and written)
- Competence
- Integrity

Social Work Core Values:

For the Social Work Profession the guiding principles are rooted in its set of core values. These core values are the foundation of social work’s unique purpose and perspective and are found in
*The NASW Code of Ethics:*

- Service
- Social Justice
- Dignity and worth of the person
- Importance of human relationships
- Integrity
- Competence

The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) uses the Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) to accredit baccalaureate and master’s-level social work programs. EPAS supports academic excellence by establishing thresholds for professional competence.

9 Social Work Competencies:

- Demonstrate Ethical and Professional Behavior
- Engage Diversity and Difference in Practice
- Advance Human Rights and Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice
- Engage in Practice-informed Research and Research-informed Practice
- Engage in Policy Practice
- Engage with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- Assess Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- Intervene with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities
- Evaluate Practice with Individuals, Families, Groups, Organizations, and Communities


Quotes on Professionalism:

“Personal character is the foundation to professional success. Be gracious, be humble, be forgiving, but be strong.”

Dana Perino  
*Former White House Press Secretary, Media Strategist, Political Commentator*


“Professional is not a label you give yourself – it’s a description you hope others will apply to you.”

David Maister  