

International Association of Interpersonal Hypnotherapists (IAIH)

Code of Ethics

Version: XII

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

Supersedes: Version XI (January 2025)

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Statement of Continuity

This **2026 Code of Ethics (Version XII)** is an evolutionary update of the prior IAIH Code of Ethics. Its purpose is to preserve the spirit, philosophy, and structure of earlier editions while clarifying language, updating dates and versioning, and incorporating current best practices in ethics, client safety, professional boundaries, and organizational accountability.

Unless explicitly stated, ethical obligations contained herein are continuous with and inclusive of prior versions. This document does **not** expand the legal scope of practice of any member and does **not** supersede applicable laws or regulations governing hypnosis or hypnotherapy.

Governing Authority & Applicability

This Code of Ethics is produced by **Anahat Education Group, Inc.**, through the **International Association of Interpersonal Hypnotherapists (IAIH)**, and governs all individuals operating under IAIH authority, including:

- IAIH Certified Hypnotherapists
- IAIH Certified Clinical & Transpersonal Hypnotherapists
- IAIH Certified Supervisors, Examiners, and Instructors
- Directors of IAIH Approved Schools and Externship Locations
- Enrolled students at IAIH Approved Schools

Adherence to this Code of Ethics is a condition of certification, membership, training participation, and continued standing with the Association.

Preamble

Interpersonal Hypnotherapy is both a professional discipline and a relational path of service. It is founded upon the recognition that each client encounter is a sacred interaction in which practitioner and client mutually participate in transformation.

The IAIH affirms that Hypnotherapy is simultaneously a business, a service, and a transformational modality. Ethical practice requires the integration of compassion, responsibility, professionalism, legal compliance, and sustainable livelihood.

Members are individually responsible for understanding and complying with the hypnosis laws and regulations applicable within their jurisdiction. The IAIH supports its members through education, guidance, and advocacy, but ultimate responsibility for lawful and ethical practice rests with the individual practitioner.

Principles

IAIH members affirm the following principles:

- We practice within the laws and regulations governing hypnosis and hypnotherapy in our jurisdiction.
 - We honor the inherent dignity, autonomy, and worth of every individual.
 - We recognize prosperity as compatible with ethical service when pursued with integrity.
 - We acknowledge the interconnected nature of human experience and relationship.
 - We accept responsibility for our professional conduct, competence, and boundaries.
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Values

- Love and compassion as the foundation of service
 - Balance, harmony, and integrity
 - Community, cooperation, and mutual respect
 - Personal accountability and ethical maturity
 - Abundance aligned with service and responsibility
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Mission Statement

The mission of the International Association of Interpersonal Hypnotherapists is to establish and uphold ethical standards for the education, certification, and professional practice of Interpersonal Hypnotherapy worldwide.

Through continuing education, ethical accountability, transparency, and collaboration, the IAIH seeks to advance public trust in Hypnotherapy while honoring the central role of relationship in human transformation.

IAIH Code of Ethics

1. Compassionate Service

Members practice Hypnotherapy with compassion, respect, and care for the wellbeing of clients, colleagues, and the broader community.

2. Advancement of the Profession

Members act in ways that promote credibility, trust, and integrity within the Hypnotherapy profession and the public sphere.

3. Professionalism

Members maintain professional conduct, boundaries, and competence, recognizing the interconnected nature of mind, body, emotion, and experience.

4. Scope of Practice

Members practice strictly within the limits of their education, credentials, legal authority, and the IAIH Scope of Practice Assessment Protocols (SOPA). Medical or mental health conditions require appropriate referral, supervision, or authorization as required by law.

5. Health & Safety

Client and practitioner safety shall be prioritized in all professional activities.

6. Client Agreement & Disclosure

Members shall utilize the IAIH Client Agreement and Disclosure Form and ensure informed consent is ongoing and documented.

7. Confidentiality

Members protect client confidentiality in accordance with applicable privacy laws (e.g., HIPAA or local equivalents) and ethical obligations.

8. Respect for the Individual

Members respect the autonomy, dignity, beliefs, and lived experience of each individual.

9. Communication

Members communicate truthfully, professionally, and responsibly in all professional contexts.

10. Competition & Business Conduct

Members engage in ethical competition and business practices consistent with professional integrity.

11. Advertising & Marketing

Members shall not misrepresent credentials, scope, outcomes, or services, nor imply medical or psychotherapeutic treatment unless legally authorized.

12. Referral & Client Welfare

Members refer clients to appropriate licensed professionals when client needs exceed scope or when risk indicators arise.

13. Conflicts of Interest & Dual Relationships

Members avoid conflicts of interest and refrain from sexual or intimate relationships with clients during service and for a minimum of two years following termination.

14. Fees & Financial Integrity

Fees shall be fair, transparent, and commensurate with services rendered. Exploitative financial practices are prohibited.

15. Non-Discrimination

Members do not discriminate based on race, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, or protected status.

16. Recording

Written consent is required prior to recording sessions. Recordings are treated as confidential unless otherwise authorized.

17. Termination of Services

Members take reasonable steps to avoid client abandonment and assist with appropriate referrals when services conclude.

18. Length of Service

Members avoid unnecessary prolongation of professional relationships.

19. Society & Public Responsibility

Members support social conditions that uphold dignity, justice, and respect for all persons.

20. Education & Public Awareness

Members contribute to ethical public education and awareness regarding Hypnotherapy.

21. Media & Public Representation

Public communications must be truthful, responsible, and consistent with professional knowledge and this Code of Ethics.

22. Personal Wellbeing & Fitness to Practice

Members refrain from practice when personal issues impair competence and seek appropriate support.

23. Ethical Decision-Making

When no explicit rule applies, members commit to ethical reasoning and responsible judgment.

24. No Retaliation

Retaliation against individuals raising ethical concerns or participating in investigations is strictly prohibited.

25. Reporting Unethical Conduct

Members report unethical or illegal conduct to the IAIH or appropriate authorities when necessary.

26. Interprofessional Cooperation

Members cooperate with other professionals when doing so benefits the client and respects confidentiality.

27. Training & Teaching Ethics

Educational materials and trainings are respected as proprietary unless otherwise authorized.

28. Continuing Education

Members maintain competence through ongoing education, including ethics and scope-of-practice training.

29. Infractions, Complaints & Due Process

The IAIH maintains formal procedures for ethical complaints, investigation, findings, appeals, and disciplinary action, up to and including revocation of certification.

30. Plagiarism

Members shall not plagiarize or misappropriate intellectual property and shall give appropriate credit to sources.

Adoption

This Code of Ethics (Version XII) is adopted by the International Association of Interpersonal Hypnotherapists and is effective January 1, 2026.

Reference: Prior IAIH Code of Ethics (2025 Edition)