

The Embodiment of Professionalism

To function as a premiere medical school and continuously improve, Elgon international health institute requires exceptional and committed individuals. A working and learning culture that is based upon the institution's articulated core values and guiding principles is critical to attracting, retaining and nurturing members of the Elgon international health institute community. For this reason, and to warrant the trust of patients, families and society at large, all members of the Elgon international health institute community are committed to fostering and embodying professionalism.

While the history of medicine and science is replete with calls for professional conduct, increasing attention is being focused on professionalism as the national and global health care system adapts to a number of societal, scientific and financial stresses. Many professional groups are renewing their emphasis on and measurement of professionalism, including the Allied health professionals' council, BTVET, dental and medical practitioners, UNMC. Curriculum Development Centre.

In *Academic Board*, identifies desirable behaviors of professionalism to include conduct that demonstrates an individual:

- Subordinates their own interests to the interests of others
- Adheres to high ethical and moral standards
- Responds to societal needs, reflecting a social contract with the communities served
- Evinces core humanistic values, including honesty and integrity, caring and compassion, altruism and empathy, respect for others, and trustworthiness
- Exercises accountability for themselves and for colleagues
- Demonstrates a lifelong commitment to excellence
- Exhibits a commitment to scholarship and to advancing their field
- Deals with high levels of complexity and uncertainty
- Reflects upon their actions and decisions

The Code of Conduct states that professionalism must be grounded in what individuals actually do and how they act, both individually and collectively. It asserts that professionalism consists of "those behaviors by which demonstrate that we are worthy of the trust bestowed upon us by our patients and the public, because we are working for the patients' and the public's good." Members of the Elgon international health institute echo and affirm these principles.