

HORRY-GEORGETOWN TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
**POLICY**

Number: 1.2.4  
Title: Area Commission Code of Ethical Behaviors and Expectations  
Authority: Title 59, Chapter 53, Sections 810-860 of the  
1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as Amended  
Responsibility: Chair, Area Commission  
  
Original Approval Date: 12-05-2000  
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Last Revision: 06-12-2018

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Chairperson

For the Area Commission to be responsible, as the governing board, for the mission and operations of Horry-Georgetown Technical College, the individual behaviors of each member need to be equal to the public accountability and trust commitments expected of the College. Accordingly, and in recognition of the obligations entrusted by the public, the Commission sets forth this policy.

**Code of Ethical Behaviors**

The Commission hereby adopts the following statements as reflective of individual commitments of Commission members and to which each Commission member is obligated upon acceptance of the appointment of service:

To represent the citizens of Horry and Georgetown Counties, and the people of South Carolina, as the ownership of the College.

To consider the long-term interests of the people of Horry and Georgetown Counties and a broad and comprehensive view of the College and its mission.

To encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by fellow Commission members and by others who seek a hearing before the board.

To respect and contribute to an atmosphere in which controversial issues can be presented fairly, individual dignity maintained, and proper decorum preserved.

To devote time and thought to the responsibilities of a member of the Commission, and adequately prepare for board meetings.

To cast a vote reflective of each Commission member's carefully considered position, and to then wholeheartedly support the majority vote and final decision.

To accept that an individual Commission member has no legal authority outside of the meetings and actions of the full governing board, and to exercise no individual authority over the organization.

To protect the College from undue pressure from political, religious or other external bodies and to protect the administration from similar pressures.

To refrain from using the position as a Commission member for personal benefit or favor, or to bring benefit to anyone apart from the total and best interests of the people of Horry and Georgetown Counties.

To work with fellow Commission members and the College President in a spirit of harmony and cooperation.

To recognize and respect the distinction between policy setting for, and administration of, the College.

To provide the College President with a clear understanding of the Commission's expectations and directions for the College and for the President's leadership.

To provide visible public support for the College President and avoid public criticism, as demonstration of trust in the chief executive officer.

To provide assurance that the College President is the primary contact with the College, and to bring recognition for, and attention to, the achievements of the College.

To reserve judgments to the Commission meetings, and refer complaints and concerns to the College President.

To base decisions as a Commission member on the best interest of Horry and Georgetown citizens, and the students of the College, rather than upon special or parochial interests.

To respect the confidentiality of privileged information, while adhering to the proper conduct of Commission business before public view, except where legally appropriate

To model the highest standards for integrity, and scrupulously avoid any conflicts of interests.