

USING THE ETHICAL CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT



The Illinois PTA State Board of Directors requires every board member to sign an ethical conduct agreement annually. This agreement serves as a reminder that, as board members, we have a duty to the association and its membership. It also ensures that we are adhering to the legal responsibilities of a non-profit board, complying with our bylaws, and upholding the mission and purposes of the PTA. Though it is a rare occurrence, should a board member need to be removed from office for failing to fulfill the duties of their position, the ethical conduct agreement provides a basis for doing so.

Included in the Leadership Resources is a PTA Ethical or code of Conduct Agreement in both English and Spanish similar to the one used by the Illinois PTA. We strongly recommend that every local unit and PTA council board have its board members sign some form of Ethical Conduct Agreement. The one included here can be used as written or as a basis for developing your own.

While it is easy to think of volunteering for the PTA as just a volunteer job, in reality, you and your fellow board members are running an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. An ethical conduct agreement helps to remind your board members of that responsibility, and having a policy of requiring one for board members can provide your PTA with the tools it needs to deal with an issue at hand rather than the person involved during an emotionally-charged time.

If you have any questions about using the PTA Ethical Conduct Agreement, please do not hesitate to contact the Illinois PTA or your District or Region Director.