



## NEW Code of Professional Ethics for Rehabilitation Counselors Effective January 1, 2010

# TOP 10 CHANGES

Items below reflect the 10 most important changes to the Code and are by no means all-inclusive. Rehabilitation Counselors certified by CRCC are bound to act in accordance with the new Code effective January 1, 2010 and, as such, are encouraged to fully read the new Code. The full Code is available for viewing, downloading, and printing on the CRCC website at [www.crc certification.com/filebin/pdf/CRCC\\_COE\\_1-1-10.pdf](http://www.crc certification.com/filebin/pdf/CRCC_COE_1-1-10.pdf).

### 1. New Requirement: Written Professional Disclosure Statement

#### Standards A.3.a-b

- Disclosure must now be conducted “orally, in writing, and in a manner that best accommodates any ... limitation.”
- Provides more detailed guidance as to, minimally, what must be addressed at the outset of the counseling relationship.
- Reinforces that disclosure may not be just a one-time event.
- Informed consent is expanded and addressed separately.
- Sample disclosure statements, developed by CRCC, are available on the CRCC website at [www.crc certification.com/pages/certificant\\_resource\\_materials/42.php](http://www.crc certification.com/pages/certificant_resource_materials/42.php) for use by CRCs in preparing their statements.

### 2. Enhanced Requirement: Roles and Relationships with Clients

#### Section A.5

- Provides clearer guidance regarding both professional and non-professional client relationships.
- Addresses role changes in the professional relationship.

### 3. New Standards & Requirement: Cultural Competence/Diversity

#### Standards D.2.a-b

- Requires development of interventions and services that incorporate consideration of clients' cultural perspectives as well as recognition of external cultural/diversity barriers.
- Articulates nondiscrimination statement.
- Cultural diversity/multiculturalism matters are also addressed/infused throughout the Code.

### 4. New Standard: Disaster Preparedness

#### Standard D.3.b

- Establishes obligation of rehabilitation counselors to plan for facilitating continued services for clients in the event of a natural and/or man-made disaster.

## 5. Rewritten Section: Technology and Distance Counseling (formerly Electronic Communication and Emerging Applications)

### Section J

- Establishes new, recommended CRC practices in light of today's advanced technology across all mediums.
- Areas covered include, but are not limited to, communication, accessibility, confidentiality, security, records maintenance & disposal, advertising, and distance counseling.

## 6. New Section: Forensic and Indirect Services

### Section F

- Expands upon concept of "evaluee" versus "client" in forensic setting.
- Addresses forensic competency & conduct, forensic practices, and forensic business practices.
- A "Must Read" for CRCs who provide these services.

## 7. New Standards: End-of-Life Care

### Standards A.9.a-c

- Addresses end-of-life issues for terminally ill clients including quality of care; rehabilitation counselor competence, choice, and referral; and confidentiality.

## 8. Enhanced Section: Teaching, Training, and Supervision

### Section H

- Addresses teaching, training, and supervision concerns/scenarios found **within the workplace** (vs. the traditional educator/educational venue) where supervision of trainees and employees in general is a regular occurrence.

## 9. New Section: Glossary of Terms

- Defines key terminology used throughout the Code.

## 10. Enhanced Section: Preamble

- Identifies values that serve as the foundation of the Code.
- Includes Veracity as a principle of ethical behavior.