



Guidelines for Requesting Advisory Opinions From CRCC's Ethics Committee

Consistent with the intent of the CRCC Code of Professional Ethics for Rehabilitation Counselors, the CRCC Ethics Committee recommends that rehabilitation counselors who are considering seeking advisory opinions first consult with other rehabilitation counselors and colleagues who are knowledgeable about ethics in order to attempt to resolve questions that may easily be addressed by other knowledgeable parties. If these attempts do not result in resolution of the matter, individuals may request advisory opinions from the CRCC Ethics Committee.

The Committee provides advisory opinions on selected situations having ethical implications. These advisory opinions are provided as a general educational service and are rendered in response to limited and unverified information provided to the Committee. Therefore, it should not be construed as direct advice regarding the unique or specific ethical or legal action recommendations that should be followed regarding the issues raised. The considerations described by the Committee's advisory opinion should be regarded only as general educational assistance and not as specific direction in any particular instance.

Individuals requesting advisory opinions should be aware of the following:

- Requests should not be filed if there is reason to believe that a violation of the Code has occurred. Those attempting to determine if alleged behavior violates the Code may receive a response to a request for an advisory opinion that may later appear to contradict a ruling made if a complaint is actually filed. This possible incongruity might be due to the fact that advisory opinions do not allow for full disclosure of all available information in the matter.
- Information presented in a request for an advisory opinion and the Committee's response to that ruling may be presented for educational purposes to other parties in a sanitized format.
- CRCC's Ethics Committee meets four times per year. Requests received will be scheduled for review at the next scheduled meeting of the Committee.

How to request an advisory opinion:

1. Requests should be clear and concise and should include both the scenario and the requestor's opinion as to the Standard(s) in the CRCC Code of Professional Ethics for Rehabilitation Counselors that relate to the matter as well as the requestor's interpretation of how to apply the Standard(s) to the scenario. Further, if the requestor is a CRC, the request should advise as to the results of consultation with other rehabilitation counselors and colleagues.
2. Requests should be sent in writing to CRCC at 1699 East Woodfield Road Suite 300, Schaumburg, IL 60173, Attn: Ethics Committee.