

# STRENGTHENING ETHICAL BEHAVIOR IN TAX PLANNING

## WHY THE NEED FOR IESBA'S NEW TAX PLANNING STANDARDS?



Tax scandals around the world have led to growing public scrutiny of tax planning and the role played by tax consultants.



These scandals have inspired extensive jurisdictional technical standards, but ethical, not technical problems lie at their core.



IESBA's tax planning standards, which are the first of their kind, aim to strengthen the ethics framework which guides providers of tax planning services.

## WHAT THE STANDARDS AIM TO ACHIEVE

The goal of the standards is to provide a principles-based framework and a global ethical benchmark applicable to all tax planning professionals:



### ALIGN TAX PLANNING WITH THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Stimulate tax professionals to consider the broader impact of their advice, beyond legal compliance



### CHART A SAFE, ETHICAL PASSAGE THROUGH COMPLEX OR UNCERTAIN SITUATIONS

Provide an ethical compass to navigate complex tax planning challenges and where the legality of tax planning is unclear



### PUT ETHICS AT THE HEART OF TAX PLANNING ADVICE

Reinforce adherence to fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, professional behavior, and confidentiality



### ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE PRACTICES

Encourage transparent documentation and communication of advice



### FOSTER TRUST IN TAX SYSTEMS

Rebuild trust by ensuring the actions of tax planning professionals meet public expectations for ethical conduct, responsibility and accountability

## STAY INFORMED & TAKE ACTION:

IESBA's Tax Planning Standards will be effective from July 1, 2025 with early adoption encouraged.

Visit [www.ethicsboard.org](http://www.ethicsboard.org) to learn more about how these standards will shape the future of ethics in tax planning and related services.



LEARN MORE

## ABOUT IESBA

The IESBA is an independent global standard-setting board that serves the public interest by setting high-quality, international ethics (including independence) standards as a cornerstone to ethical behavior in business and organizations, and to public trust in financial and non-financial information that is fundamental to the proper functioning and sustainability of organizations, financial markets and economies worldwide.

The IESBA Code has been adopted or is used in more than 130 jurisdictions around the world, either through legislation or local professional bodies.