VISION

Our Impact
Every person has access to quality professional counseling to thrive.

VALUES

What We Believe
Counseling is a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families, and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education, and career goals. The American Counseling Association (ACA) is an educational, scientific, and professional organization whose members work in a variety of settings and serve in multiple capacities.

MISSION

What We Do
Promote the professional development of counselors, advocate for the profession, and ensure ethical, culturally-inclusive practices that protect those using counseling services.
Next Level Learning

Our content supports you in completing coursework, keeps you informed and knowledgeable in the theories and approaches you need to know.
LEARN

ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Present & Learn

BOOKS & JOURNALS: Evidence-based Strategies & Best Practice

VIRTUAL LEARNING: Engaging Webinars & Podcasts

INSIGHTS & TRENDS: Blogs, Social Media & ACA Connect
Ethical decision-making processes are an important part of counseling coursework, as well as ethical counseling practice.

Short-form introductions to ethics issues for students explored by experts using real-world issues in *Counseling Today*.
Counselors are expected to advocate to promote changes at the individual, group, institutional, and societal levels that improve the quality of life for individuals and groups and remove potential barriers to the provision or access of appropriate services being offered.

Intro, Section C, ACA Code of Ethics
Advocating for Your Profession

- FEDERAL and STATE LEGISLATION
- FEDERAL, STATE and LOCAL POLICIES
- AWARENESS OF & SUPPORT FOR THE COUNSELING PROFESSION
Be with a community of early career counseling professionals who know what you are going through – to understand, celebrate, and support the joys and challenges.
Best Profession

You are entering the best profession in the world. We get to come to work every day and make a positive difference in the lives of others. It doesn’t get any better than that. – Dr. Lynn Linde
A Journey

We all begin our journey to be counselors as people who are seeking a purpose greater than ourselves and for the benefit of others. In the process, we often find a new awareness of who we are and what we can and should do.

– Sam T. Gladding
Growth

The degree to which I can create relationships, which facilitate the growth of others as separate persons, is a measure of the growth I have achieved in myself.

– Carl R. Rogers
Life Meaning

Life meaning is always a derivative phenomenon that materializes when we have transcended ourselves, when we have forgotten ourselves and become absorbed in someone (or something) outside ourselves. – Irving D. Yalom
MEET YOUR SUPPORT TEAM

LYNN LINDE, Ed.D, leads the team of counselors committed to supporting counselors. A school counselor at heart, Lynn is passionate about helping others grow. Let her know how she and her team can help you: llinde@counseling.org

JOY NATWICK, MS, is a self-professed counseling ethics nerd with a diverse background. Joy loves sharing her knowledge and experience with students to help prepare them for ethical practice. Email jnatwick@counseling.org with your ethics question – she looks forward to providing ethical guidance.

NANCY CARLSON, Ph.D., LCPC, has 30+ years working in the public school system and knows the ins and outs of school counseling. She provides support and information to counseling students seeking licensure. She’s only a few clicks away to assist you: ncarlson@counseling.org

DANIELLE IRVING-JOHNSON, M.A., Ed.S, an expert in career counseling, Danielle provides career guidance, services, and resources designed to encourage and assist students and new professionals to obtain their career goals while also promoting the importance of self-care, work-life balance and burnout prevention. Email dirving@counseling.org for guidance and tips.
MEET YOUR ADVOCACY TEAM

DILLON HARP, MPA, leads ACA’s state and federal grassroots and advocacy activities. Dillon is an extrovert that loves communicating with our members across the country – reach out and see how you can get more involved locally: dharp@counseling.org

GUILA TODD tirelessly advocates for counselors through a multitude of political channels. He focuses on Federal funding for the creation and maintenance on school counseling programs nationally; and works with Congressional leaders on both sides of the aisle to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for all students. Let him know how he and his team can help you: gtodd@counseling.org
$102 – less than a weekly trip to Starbucks (and less calories!).

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