Solutions to Civil Engineering Licensure Exam – Engineering Ethics

February 26, 2025

March 2, 2025

1 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

1. **Which of the following is a fundamental canon of engineering ethics?**

   Solution: (a) Hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics

2. **An engineer discovers a critical flaw in a project after its completion. What is the ethical course of action?**

   Solution: (b) Report the flaw to the client and recommend corrective measures.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics

3. **Accepting gifts from contractors can lead to:**

   Solution: (c) A conflict of interest.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics

4. **Plagiarism in engineering reports is considered:**

   Solution: (d) Unethical and unprofessional conduct.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics

5. **Whistleblowing is justified when:**

   Solution: (a) Public safety is at risk due to negligence.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics

2 Problem-Solving

1. **An engineer is offered a substantial gift by a supplier after awarding them a contract. What should the engineer do?**

   Solution: The engineer should politely decline the gift to maintain professional integrity and avoid any appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics

2. **During a project review, an engineer notices that the materials specified do not meet safety standards. What is the appropriate action?**

   Solution: The engineer should immediately report the discrepancy to the project manager and recommend halting the project until the materials are brought up to the required safety standards.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics

3. **An engineer is asked to seal and sign engineering documents that were prepared by a colleague without reviewing them. What should the engineer do?**

   Solution: The engineer should refuse to sign and seal the documents without thoroughly reviewing them to ensure they meet all applicable standards and regulations.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics

4. **A junior engineer discovers that their company's project may have a negative environmental impact. What is the ethical course of action?**

   Solution: The junior engineer should report their findings to their supervisor and, if necessary, escalate the concern to higher authorities to ensure the issue is addressed appropriately.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics

5. **An engineer finds a critical error in a project design that has already been approved. What steps should be taken?**

   Solution: The engineer should promptly inform all relevant stakeholders about the error and collaborate to develop a solution to rectify the mistake, ensuring the project's safety and integrity.

   Video Explanation: FE Exam Prep: Ethics