

Certified Optometric Vision Therapist Code of Conduct

- A. It shall be the **duty and obligation** of Certified Optometric Vision Therapists of COVD to:
1. Serve their doctor to the best of their ability in caring for the well-being of patients.
 2. Promote, advocate, and deliver Optometric Vision Therapy following the developmental/ behavioral philosophy of vision care by continually educating patients/families through words and actions.
 3. Maintain COVT Certification by continuous enhancement of their professional knowledge and proficiency, and by obtaining continuing education specific to developmental/behavioral vision care.
 4. Behave as a role model and encourage other therapists to become Certified Optometric Vision Therapists (COVTs).
 5. Communicate and interact with fellow optometrists and therapists, enhancing knowledge of developmental/behavioral vision care for the benefit of the public, patients, and optometry.
 6. Be willing, when asked, to serve on committees and in leadership positions as you are able.
 7. Maintain professional behavior, appearance, and conduct according to the current standards of care.
 8. Inform the doctor when an appropriate referral may be warranted or a specific concern arises that may be best served by another professional.
 9. Seek to uphold and improve the laws, regulations, and policies governing the delivery of optometric services to the public.
 10. Respect patient confidentiality.
 11. Conduct themselves as exemplary citizens and professionals with honesty, integrity, fairness, kindness, and compassion.
- B. It shall be considered **unethical** to:

1. Use the title of COVT if the certification process has not been completed.
2. Use the title of COVT if employment with/supervision by an FCOVD is not maintained.
3. Use the title of COVT if their certification has expired.
4. Make any claim that violates their individual state or country's optometry laws and statutes.
5. Display or advertise certificates, honors or similar documents unless they have been legitimately earned and have not expired.
6. Communicate in a misleading manner or make a fraudulent claim.
7. Use any official position for self-aggrandizement.
8. Be found guilty of any criminal offense which subjects employment to review.