J S University
Shikohabad, Firozabad (U.P.)

CODE OF ETHICS FOR RESEARCH

1. Preamble

J.S. University is committed to fostering a research environment that upholds the highest standards of integrity, accountability, and social responsibility. This Code of Ethics provides guidelines for all research activities conducted under the auspices of the university, ensuring they align with national and international ethical standards.

2. Core Ethical Principles

a) Respect for Individuals
- Informed Consent: Researchers must ensure voluntary, informed participation with written consent after full disclosure of the study's purpose, risks, and benefits.
- Confidentiality: Personal data must be securely stored and used only for stated research purposes.
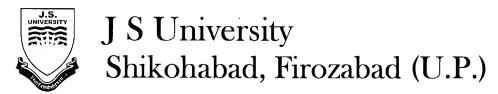
b) Honesty and Integrity
- Data Authenticity: All research data must be accurately recorded, stored, and reported without fabrication, falsification, or manipulation.
- Transparent Reporting: Findings must be published with full disclosure of methodologies and funding sources.

c) Justice and Equity
- Non-Discrimination: Research must treat all participants fairly, irrespective of gender, caste, religion, or socio-economic status.
- Inclusivity: Research should aim to include underrepresented groups when relevant to the topic.

3. Intellectual Property and Plagiarism

- Original Work: Researchers must produce original work and provide proper citations for the work of others.
- Plagiarism Check: All theses, dissertations, and research papers must be screened using plagiarism detection software approved by the university (e.g., URKUND or Turnitin).
- Co-authorship: Proper credit must be given to all contributors.

4. Ethical Oversight and Approval

- All research involving human subjects, animals, or sensitive data must be reviewed and approved by the Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) or the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC).
- Ethics clearance must be obtained prior to the commencement of research.
- The Research and Development Cell (RDC) will monitor ethical compliance regularly.

5. Professional Conduct

- Mentorship: Senior faculty must mentor early-career researchers and students in ethical research practices.
- Collegiality: All researchers should work in a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect.
- Conflict of Interest: Any financial or personal interests that may affect research objectivity must be disclosed.

6. Environmental and Social Responsibility

- Eco-friendly Research: Efforts must be made to reduce the environmental impact of research activities.
- Social Impact: Research should aim to benefit society and promote sustainable development in alignment with national goals like Viksit Bharat@2047.

7. Animal Welfare

- Humane Treatment: Research involving animals must minimize pain and distress and follow CPCSEA guidelines.
- Alternatives: Whenever feasible, non-animal methods should be used.

8. Misconduct in Research

Research misconduct includes:
- Fabrication or falsification of data
- Plagiarism
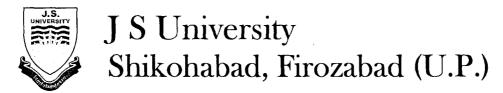- Undisclosed conflict of interest
- Misuse of research funds

Such violations will be addressed as per UGC and university disciplinary guidelines. A Research Misconduct Committee will be constituted for investigation.

9. Publication Ethics

- Authorship must reflect significant contributions.
- Duplicate publication and salami slicing are prohibited.
- All research must preferably be published in UGC CARE-listed journals or other indexed journals (Scopus, Web of Science).

10. Legal and Institutional Compliance

- Researchers must comply with all applicable laws, including:
  - UGC Regulations
  - ICMR Guidelines for Biomedical Research
  - Biodiversity Act
  - Copyright and Patent laws
- All externally funded research must be registered with the university's Sponsored Projects Office.

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11. Grievance Redressal

- Researchers may report ethical concerns or grievances to the Dean, Research & Development.
- A confidential process will be maintained to investigate and resolve complaints.

12. Periodic Review and Training

- Ethics training workshops will be conducted biannually.
- The Code of Ethics will be reviewed every three years by the Research Policy Committee.

13. The Hon'ble Vice- Chancellor has Constitute the ethical committee of the University time to time.

Approved by:
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