Scientific Integrity

EPA

identify what SI is
identify how SI aligns with work you're doing at EPA
EPA is a leader in SI
SI is critical to EPA's mission
SI is everyones job and responsibility
what are individual responsibilities related to SI
what are the responsibilities of others in terms of SI
EPA welcomes differing scientific opinions (DSOs). Employees should feel welcome to express DSOs
who do I contact for assistance
EPA has a SciO and DSciOs in offices/regions to reach out to
SciO and DSciOs are available for advice, not just to address lapses in SI
where can you find resources
where do I report a lapse in SI

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Select all that apply.

All EPA employees, including scientists, managers, and political appointees, are required to follow the Scientific Integrity Policy when:

- Engaging in, supervising, managing, or influencing scientific activities
- Communicating information in an official capacity about Agency scientific activities
- Utilizing scientific information in making Agency policy or management decisions
- *Add an incorrect choice?*

Scientific Integrity EPA

Scientific Integrity deals only with issues of scientific misconduct.

False

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Select all that apply.

It is Agency policy to:

Encourage publication and presentation of research findings in peer-reviewed, professional, or scholarly journals and at professional meetings.

Allow participation in professional societies, committees, task forces and other specialized bodies of professional societies, including serving as officers or on the governing boards of such societies.

Encourage Agency scientists to take paid positions outside the Agency to keep current their scientific qualifications and professional certifications.

Allow Agency scientists to accrue professional awards, honors and patents for their research and discoveries.

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Scientific misconduct includes fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing scientific and research activities, or in the publication or reporting of these activities; scientific misconduct does not include honest error or differences of opinion.

True

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Which of these are violations of scientific integrity?

- **Partiality or conflict of interest in peer review or advisory committees**
- **Agency end-users directing research and results**
- *Researchers openly discussing differences of opinion*
- *Researchers presenting study results at outside scientific meetings*
- **Lack of transparency around Agency decision-making**

Scientific Integrity

EPA

All EPA employees have a responsibility to report any breach of this Scientific Integrity Policy to their supervisor.

False

Scientific Integrity EPA

Scientific Integrity Committee

Scientific Integrity Official

Deputy Scientific Integrity Official

Evaluates allegations including making inquiries and writing reports summarizing the findings of those inquiries.

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Deputy Scientific Integrity Officials act as liaisons for their respective Programs and Regions. They are available to address any questions or concerns regarding EPA's Scientific Integrity Policy.

True

Scientific Integrity

EPA

EPA's Scientific Integrity Official, with input from the Deputy Scientific Integrity Officials, develops a transparent mechanism for Agency employees to express differing scientific opinions.

True

Scientific Integrity

EPA

EPA's Scientific Integrity Policy recognizes the value of independent validation of scientific methods.

True

Scientific Integrity

EPA

When an EPA employee substantively engaged in the science informing an Agency policy decision disagrees with the scientific data, scientific interpretations, or scientific conclusions that will be relied upon for said Agency decision, the employee is encouraged to express that opinion, complete with rationale, preferably in writing.

True

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Whistleblower laws protect all EPA employees who uncover or report allegations of scientific and research misconduct, or who express a differing scientific opinion, from retaliation or other punitive actions.

True

Scientific Integrity

EPA

EPA scientists may express their personal views provided they specify that they are not speaking on behalf of, or as a representative of, the Agency but rather in their private capacity.

True

Scientific Integrity

EPA

EPA scientists should avoid inquiries from the news media regarding their scientific work.
(Policy p. 12)

False

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Policy makers shall not knowingly misrepresent, exaggerate, or downplay areas of scientific uncertainty associated with policy decisions.

True

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Under no circumstances should the public affairs staff attempt to alter or change scientific findings or results.
(Policy p.13)

True

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Contractors, grantees, collaborators, and student volunteers of the Agency are not expected to uphold the standards of the Scientific Integrity Policy.

False

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Searching "Scientific Integrity" in any intranet area allows you to find how to

Contact EPA's Scientific Integrity Official and your Deputy Scientific Integrity Official.
Contact the Inspector General Hotline.
Report a lapse of scientific integrity.

Scientific Integrity

EPA

Allegations of a lapse of scientific integrity may only be submitted by EPA employees.

False

Scientific Integrity EPA

Select all that apply.

To report an allegation of the loss of scientific integrity, submit it in writing to the

The Scientific Integrity Official
The Scientific Integrity Committee
The Office of the Inspector General
A Deputy Scientific Integrity Official