

National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals

Certification Fraud Policy

NADSP is a professional organization that promotes adherence to a professional code of ethics. All professionals who seek to align with NADSP are expected to uphold high ethical standards. In the process of certification, individuals must follow the path of responsible, forthright work and actions that represent the NADSP Code of Ethics. All persons aligned with NADSP are charged with the responsibility to ensure the integrity of the certification process, thus challenging and reporting any known acts of certification fraud.

The National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) defines certification fraud as follows:

- Describing direct support work inaccurately (or falsifying evidence) in a portfolio work sample or E-Badge Academy submission. This includes describing direct support work that was not actually performed or events that did not take place.
- Describing the work of another professional as your own work. This includes copying work samples or testimonial statements of another Direct Support Professional as well as claiming to have performed direct support work which was actually performed by others.
- Copying information from a source without attributing the work to the author of that source.
- Downloading or copying information directly from the internet and passing it off as one's own.

All of these behaviors are unethical, and are inconsistent with the Integrity and Responsibility tenet of the NADSP Code of Ethics. The NADSP will not accept for assessment any work where there is evidence of fraud.

Direct Support Professionals who engage in or are discovered to have engaged in fraud will have any certifications based on a fraudulent submission revoked and will be indefinitely prohibited from applying for certification with the NADSP.

Direct Support Professionals participating in the NADSP E-Badge Academy who engage in or are discovered to have submitted fraudulent submissions to the E-Badge Academy will be removed from the E-Badge Academy platform and will be prohibited indefinitely from re-enrolling.

Direct Support Professionals determined by the NADSP to have engaged in fraud, resulting in a loss of certification with the NADSP may appeal this decision by submitting in writing a request for appeal along with documentation supporting their claim for appeal to the NADSP, Attn: Desiree Loucks Baer, COO, 240 Washington Ave. Extension, Albany NY 12203 or at dloucksbaer@nadsp.org.

Direct Support Professionals determined by the NADSP to have engaged in fraud who wish to request re-admission to the E-Badge Academy or for a new or revised portfolio to be considered may submit a request in writing along with documentation supporting their request to the NADSP, Attn: Desiree Loucks Baer, COO, 240 Washington Ave. Extension, Albany NY 12203 or at dloucksbaer@nadsp.org.