

BBC Code of Conduct

Contents

A message from the Executive Committee.....	2
What we expect from you.....	3
Our Mission, Vision and Values.....	4
1. People.....	5
1.1 Speaking up.....	5
1.2 Working with children.....	5
1.3 Treating everyone equally.....	6
1.4 Keeping everyone safe.....	7
1.5 Saying the right thing.....	8
Our Editorial Standards.....	8
2. Conduct.....	10
2.1 Speaking up.....	10
2.2 Stopping bribery and corruption.....	10
2.3 Serving the public interest.....	11
2.4 Protecting what belongs to the BBC.....	12
2. Relationships.....	13
3.1 Buying and selling ethically.....	13
3.2 Being greener.....	13
3.3 Buying and selling ethically.....	14
3.4 Spending wisely.....	14
3.5 Being social.....	15
Useful Links.....	16

A message from the Executive Committee

The BBC isn't just any broadcaster. It holds a special place in people's hearts. Those three simple letters have come to stand for so much.

It's up to each of us, and all of us, to protect the BBC's reputation for fairness, truth and integrity.

This document spells out, clearly and simply, what we expect from you when you work with or for the BBC – and what you can expect from the BBC in return. However junior or senior you are, wherever we are in the world.

It's up to you to know and follow these guiding principles in your day-to-day working life. But the two most important are to ask when you're unsure and speak up if you think or know something's wrong.

We will listen, we will act and we will make sure you don't suffer any repercussions for standing up for what's right.

You have our word.

What we expect from you

Read and be familiar with the information in our Code and understand your responsibilities, which will be different depending on your relationship with the BBC - employee, freelancer, partner or supplier for example.

- If you are unsure of your responsibilities, check with your line manager or HR contact who will be able to help you understand.
- Act in a manner that is safe, ethical, and consistent with applicable laws and regulations, BBC requirements, values and behaviours.
- Raise questions and concerns if you become aware of possible violations of laws, regulations, our Code or BBC requirements.
- Co-operate fully when responding to an investigation or audit.

Additional responsibilities of managers

We also expect you to:

- be a positive role model and lead by example
- create an atmosphere where people respect one another and everyone feels welcome
- encourage people to speak up and ask questions
- listen, take them seriously and act when they do speak up – and never tell them off or punish them in any way for doing so
- help your team understand what the BBC and the law expect from them, day to day
- hold everyone to the same standards and treat them in the same way, every time.

Our Mission, Vision and Values

Our mission is simple - to act in the public interest, serving all audiences by providing impartial, high-quality and distinctive output and services which inform, educate and entertain. Our Vision is to do this by being the most creative organisation in the world.

But we don't focus simply on what we do – we also care how we do it.

We have a set of values which people across the BBC share. They represent the expectations we have for ourselves and of each other, they guide our day-to-day decisions and the way we behave.

They are not just empty words – we expect people that work for us to display these values in day-to-day working in dealings with colleagues, customers, audiences, suppliers, partners, and the communities we serve.

Trust is the foundation of the BBC; we are independent, impartial and honest

We're honest and fair with the courage to say and do the right thing. We deliver on what we say and take responsibility for our actions.

Audiences are at the heart of everything we do

We think of our audiences first and adapt to serve their changing needs.

Respect each other and celebrate our diversity

We treat each other fairly, and value and respect the contributions of others. We're open to views that might be different to ours, and voice our own openly and politely. Once a decision's made we respect it and do everything we can to make it successful.

We take pride in delivering quality and value for money

We push ourselves to be our best and work to the highest standards, so we can be proud of everything we do. We find simpler ways of doing things and spend license fee payer's money carefully as if it were our own.

Creativity is the lifeblood of our organization

We're innovative and not afraid to try different things and break new ground. We challenge ourselves to try out new experiences and to keep developing.

We are one BBC. Great things happen when we work together.

We get fully involved and work together as one team, openly sharing our ideas and seeking out and listening to others'. As ambassadors for the BBC, we represent and celebrate the great things we all do.

I. People

Respecting each other

Wherever we are in the world, we respect people and their rights: the people around us, the people we work with and the people we speak for. We want the BBC to be a place where everyone feels safe, valued and listened to. A place where everyone feels they can speak freely. A place where everyone has the same opportunities to grow and develop. And a place that produces high quality, original and creative content – to the very highest editorial standards, in the most ethical way.

I.1 Speaking up

Doing the right thing isn't enough. Each and every one of us has a duty to speak up if we see others doing wrong – and to take people seriously when they raise the alarm. Speaking up can be scary, especially when you're the only one willing to do so or there are powerful people involved. That's why we have a confidential Whistleblowing hotline. All it takes is one person to break the silence.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll take what you tell us seriously and investigate - and protect your confidentiality in line with our whistleblowing policy.
- You won't get into any trouble for speaking up – and we'll take disciplinary action against anyone who is found to have threatened, intimidated, or bullied you in any way.

What we can expect from you

- When you see something wrong, you'll tell your manager right away.
- If it involves children - you'll tell your local Child Protection Advisor (see Gateway to find yours).
- If you can't tell your manager - you'll call our confidential BBC Whistleblowing hotline on 0800 374199.
- You'll do whatever you can to help us investigate and get to the truth.
- You'll take people seriously when they speak up – and don't try to talk them out of doing it, or punish them in any way.
- Talk to your Line Manager.
- If you feel you cannot talk to your line manager and it is about malpractice, contact the confidential BBC Whistleblowing hotline Expolink on 0800 374199
- Assist in any investigation into an incident.
- Never retaliate against someone who Speaks Up.

I.2 Working with children

Sometimes our work involves children. When it does, we're all responsible for keeping them safe. We have a Child Protection Policy, and a Working with Children code of conduct which sets out clear guidelines for how to do that. And Child Protection Advisors across the BBC to make sure we're putting them into practice, day-to-day..

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll have a clear policy and guidelines on Working with Children, which anyone and everyone across the BBC can easily see or get hold of, any time they need to.
- We'll have Child Protection Advisors working across the BBC to make sure we're keeping children safe and following our own guidelines.
- We'll take your concerns seriously - and you won't get into trouble for speaking up, in any way.

What we can expect from you

- You've read our Child Protection Policy and Social Media & Online Safety guidelines – and you follow them.
- You know who your Child Protection Advisor is.
- You'll put the safety and wellbeing of children above everything else.
- You'll always remember you're working with children, always speaking and behaving in a professional and appropriate way.
- You'll avoid physical contact with children, unless it's an integral part of what you're working on.
- If you have any concerns that involve children, you'll tell your Child Protection Advisor right away.

1.3 Treating everyone equally

When we say we value difference and diversity, those aren't just words. The richer our mix of people, the richer our content. And we have a duty to reflect the whole of society. We hire and promote people based on their talent and merit – not who they know or where they're from. We help and support each other. We make sure everyone has the same chances to succeed. We don't tolerate discrimination of any kind, and we speak up when we see it.

We'll take disciplinary action against anyone who crosses the line, including firing them for gross misconduct, if it's serious.

What you can expect from the BBC

- Whenever we're hiring or promoting, we'll treat everyone equally and fairly – based on their talent, merits and how well they suit the job.
- We'll give you training and help you grow and develop – and have open, constructive conversations with you about how you're doing.
- We'll do what we can to make sure you have a healthy work/life balance – including flexible working or adjusting your workspace, if at all possible.
- We'll do all we can to make sure everyone treats each other with respect.
- We won't tolerate bullying, harassment or violence of any kind – whether it's by someone at the BBC, or against someone at the BBC – including offensive messages, derogatory remarks and inappropriate comments.

What we can expect from you

- You'll treat everyone fairly, equally and with respect.
- You'll understand what is and isn't appropriate, to make sure you don't discriminate against anyone (even by mistake).
- You'll read and follow our own policies, as well as any laws and regulations.
- You'll respect other people's cultures and beliefs.
- You won't do anything that could be offensive, intimidating, malicious or insulting to anyone else.

- You won't humiliate or hurt anyone else, or spread unwarranted gossip about them.
- You'll report any bullying, harassment or violence of any kind, if you see it – even if you only suspect something's wrong.
- If someone says they're being harassed or bullied,
- you'll help us investigate and get to the truth.

I.4 Keeping everyone safe

No matter who you are or what you do at the BBC, there will be things that you need to do as part of your job that are meant to keep our people, systems, data and buildings safe and secure. We have a duty to set out clear guidelines for everything we do, so you know the right things to do, at the right time – and you have a duty to follow them. Together, we're responsible for keeping our people, systems, data and buildings safe.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll have clear and sensible guidelines training and tools to help you do your job safely, day to day.
- If you're someone who plans or runs things at work, we'll give you the information and professional advice you need to do it safely.
- We'll follow all the laws and regulations on health and safety – in a way that's sensible and practical.
- We'll come up with new ways to respond to issues or threats as they unfold.
- We'll keep up-to-date threat and risk assessments for all our buildings, all over the world – and invest in physical security (including access control, for example)
- We'll always tell you if our security procedures need to change

What we can expect from you

- You know what our safety and security policies and procedures are – and follow them every day.
- - Please wear your BBC pass in all our buildings
- - Please don't support people tailgating through doors
- - If you see something suspicious, please speak up
- If you're planning some kind of activity, you'll do a proper risk assessment first to work out the potential hazards – and either get rid of them (if you can), or put proper safety controls in place to minimise the chances of things going wrong.
- If you're planning a High Risk activity, you'll also involve someone from the High Risk team (as well as doing a proper risk assessment yourself).
- You'll be open and up-front about what you're doing – and prepared to be creative in finding ways to do it safely.
- You know what the safety, security and emergency procedures are wherever you work - and you wear your ID whenever you're there.
- You'll report anything suspicious to your security team right away

I.5 Saying the right thing

Living up to our Editorial Standards

When the BBC speaks, the world listens. And people expect that whatever we tell them is as true, accurate and unbiased as possible – based on credible evidence, from credible sources. As a public broadcaster, we must always hold ourselves to the highest standards. Our reputation depends on it. And our Charter and Agreement demand it.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll have clear editorial standards, that line up with our Charter and Agreement – and keep evolving as they need to.
- We'll let you know what our editorial standards are, and if they change – and give you ways to speak up if you think we're not living up to them.

What we can expect from you

- You'll always weigh up our right to free speech against our responsibility to do things like respect people's privacy, be fair, avoid causing offence, or make sure no one gets hurt.
- You'll do your best to make sure everything you do lives up to our editorial standards, whatever the medium: radio or television, online or mobile, digital or print.

Our Editorial Standards

- i. Trust - Trust is the foundation of the BBC: we are independent, impartial and honest. We are committed to achieving the highest standards of due accuracy and impartiality and strive to avoid knowingly and materially misleading our audiences.
- ii. Truth and Accuracy - We seek to establish the truth of what has happened and are committed to achieving due accuracy in all our output. Accuracy is not simply a matter of getting facts right; when necessary, we will weigh relevant facts and information to get at the truth. Our output, as appropriate to its subject and nature, will be well sourced, based on sound evidence, thoroughly tested and presented in clear, precise language. We will strive to be honest and open about what we don't know and avoid unfounded speculation.
- iii. Impartiality - Impartiality lies at the core of the BBC's commitment to its audiences. We will apply due impartiality to all our subject matter and will reflect a breadth and diversity of opinion across our output as a whole, over an appropriate period, so that no significant strand of thought is knowingly unreflected or under-represented. We will be fair and open-minded when examining evidence and weighing material facts.
- iv. Editorial integrity and independence - The BBC is independent of outside interests and arrangements that could undermine our editorial integrity. Our audiences should be confident that our decisions are not influenced by outside interests, political or commercial pressures, or any personal interests.
- v. Harm and offence - We aim to reflect the world as it is, including all aspects of the human experience and the realities of the natural world. But we balance our right to broadcast

innovative and challenging content with our responsibility to protect the vulnerable from harm and avoid unjustifiable offence. We will be sensitive to, and keep in touch with, generally accepted standards as well as our audiences' expectations of our content, particularly in relation to the protection of children.

- vi. Serving the public interest - We seek to report stories of significance to our audiences. We will be rigorous in establishing the truth of the story and well informed when explaining it. Our specialist expertise will bring authority and analysis to the complex world in which we live. We will ask searching questions of those who hold public office and others who are accountable, and provide a comprehensive forum for public debate.
- vii. Fairness - Our output will be based on fairness, openness, honesty and straight dealing. Contributors and audiences will be treated with respect.
- viii. Privacy - We will respect privacy and will not infringe it without good reason, wherever in the world we are operating. Private behaviour, information, correspondence and conversation will not be brought into the public domain unless there is a public interest that outweighs the expectation of privacy.
- ix. Children - We will always seek to safeguard the welfare of children and young people who contribute to and feature in our content, wherever in the world we operate. We will preserve their right to speak out and participate, while ensuring their dignity and their physical and emotional welfare is protected during the making and broadcast of our output. Content which might be unsuitable for children will be scheduled appropriately.
- x. Transparency - We will be transparent about the nature and provenance of the content we offer online. Where appropriate, we will identify who has created it and will use labelling to help online users make informed decisions about the suitability of content for themselves and their children.
- xi. Accountability - We are accountable to our audiences and will deal fairly and openly with them. Their continuing trust in the BBC is a crucial part of our relationship with them. We will be open in acknowledging mistakes when they are made and encourage a culture of willingness to learn from them.

2. Conduct

Doing the right thing

It takes a vast amount of information and equipment to do what we do. And we each have our part to play in making sure no-one can steal it, tamper with it, or stop us from getting to it. It's also up to all of us to make sure nothing we do is tainted by corruption or bribery, or influenced by outside interests – not just within the BBC, but the people we buy from or work with.

2.1 Speaking up

Hackers are constantly trying to attack, break into or take over our systems. That's why we have an Information Security team, who work round the clock and are always on call, any time you need help. But ultimately, it's those seemingly minor things you do every day that make all the difference – from protecting your passwords to thinking twice before you click on a link or open an attachment in an email.

Our Acceptable Use Policy tells you exactly what you should or shouldn't do when you're using computers, email, the internet, phones and smartphones and more. It's up to you to read it, know it and follow it.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll have clear policies, which everyone can access, spelling out what you should and shouldn't do to keep our information and systems safe.
- We'll give you whatever training you need to put our policies into practice in real life.
- We'll protect and maintain our systems to make sure you can keep on working, without interruption.

What we can expect from you

- You'll stop and think before opening an attachment or clicking on a link in an email, reporting anything suspicious to: information.security@bbc.co.uk.
- You'll choose long passwords and change them immediately if you think they have been compromised.
- You'll be careful with any portable devices (like smartphones or tablets) you use to access BBC systems - and report it right away if they are stolen or go missing.
- You'll only use BBC approved cloud services.
- You won't use your personal email (e.g. Gmail, Hotmail and so on) for work.

2.2 Stopping bribery and corruption

We can't allow anything we make, anything we do, or anyone we work with to have even the slightest hint of bribery or corruption. It's up to all of us to report it wherever we see it – whether it's within the BBC, or the people we work with or buy from.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll always make sure that everyone who works here, or who we work with, knows we have zero tolerance for bribery and corruption.
- We'll carry out proper checks before entering into any kind of relationship with anyone outside the BBC (even if it's unpaid).

- We'll keep checking to make sure our non-BBC partners live up to our own standards – and stop working with them if they won't.

What we can expect from you

- You'll read, know and follow our policy on bribery and corruption.
- You won't do anything that even looks or feels like bribery or corruption – even if it technically isn't.
- You'll take our online anti-bribery and corruption training and put it into practice, day to day.
- You'll ask the Risk Advisory team for help and advice if you have any doubts or concerns.
- You won't turn a blind eye.
- If you see or hear anything suspicious, you'll raise the red flag right away – by telling your line manager or legal and business affairs representative, or calling our confidential Whistleblowing hotline on 0800 374 199.

2.3 Serving the public interest

We're here to serve the public interest, not our own. Nothing you do while you're working for the BBC should be for your own personal gain – whether it's promoting a business you've got a personal connection to, or pushing your own political beliefs.

Knowing where to draw the line can be difficult. That's why we have a Declaration of Personal Interests policy that clearly spells out what is and isn't acceptable, and what to do if you think there might be an issue.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll have a clear policy on Personal Interests that tells you exactly what is and isn't acceptable – and we'll make sure everyone across the BBC can see it.
- We'll give you the training you need to understand our policies and put them into practice, in your day-to-day work.

What we can expect from you

- You won't let your outside interests cloud your judgement at work, or any conflicts of interest affect how you do your job. And if you think there might be conflict, you'll tell your manager right away and fill out a Declaration of Personal Interests form.
- You'll think about any potential conflicts of interest at least once a year, whenever you change roles or whenever your circumstances change.
- You'll keep looking out for any potential conflicts, as they come up – whether or not they've actually happened yet.
- You won't do anything that's likely to damage our reputation for being independent and impartial.
- If you're involved in making any kind of BBC content, you'll read and follow our Editorial Policy - Conflict of Interest Guidelines.

2.4 Protecting what belongs to the BBC

From physical assets like cameras and microphones, to intellectual assets like research or ideas, we're all responsible for making sure our audiences get the maximum benefit from the things we buy or invest in. That includes doing everything we can to make sure they don't get stolen or go missing – as well as making sure we don't waste money or abuse our expenses.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll make sure you have the resources you need to do your job properly – including the right equipment.
- We'll have a clear, simple process for reporting anything that's lost or stolen, or reporting suspected fraud.
- We won't tolerate anyone misusing or abusing anything that belongs to the BBC – including expenses.

What we can expect from you

- You'll be careful with anything that belongs to the BBC, to make sure it isn't damaged, misused, lost or stolen.
- If your job involves spending the BBC's money, you'll make informed decisions about how to do that, so our audience gets the best possible value for money.
- You'll do what's best for the BBC, not your own personal interests.
- You'll report it right away if anything that belongs to the BBC is lost or stolen.
- You won't sell anything that belongs to the BBC for your own gain.
- You'll keep proper records of any BBC assets you use in your job.
- You'll protect our intellectual property – and you won't steal or copy other people's work or ideas.

2. Relationships

Working with others

As a public broadcaster, we have to lead by example. Everything we do has to live up to the highest standards – from how we buy or sell things and who we buy them from, to our impact on the environment or the things we say on social media.

3.1 Buying and selling ethically

Anything we buy or sell – as well as the way that we buy or sell it, and the people we buy from; needs to fit with our values. As a public broadcaster, we have a unique duty to make sure we get the best possible value for money for licence fee payers.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll have clear policies on ethical buying and selling that explain what is and isn't allowed – and we'll make sure everyone who works across the BBC can see them.
- We'll give you the training you need to put our policies into practice.

What we can expect from you

- You'll read our procurement policies and Ethical Sourcing policy (BBCW) – and follow them, in your day-to-day work.
- If you're directly involved in buying products or services for the BBC, you'll make sure whoever you're buying from has been assessed to make sure they live up to our standards.
- If you're not sure whether something is ethical or not, you'll talk to your manager about it or ask someone who knows (if you're in BBCW, it's the Ethical Sourcing team).

3.2 Being greener

Our aim is simple – to be the most sustainable broadcaster in the world, bar none.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll lead the way in sustainability, by holding ourselves to the highest standards.
- We'll run all our buildings and technology as efficiently as we can, to use less, waste less and send less to landfill – and have recycling stations.
- We'll buy renewable electricity.
- We'll run environmental training for everyone who works here and give specialist advice to anyone who needs it – from individuals and teams to whole departments and divisions.
- We'll work with other broadcasters to share best practice [link to <http://wearealbert.org/>]

What we can expect from you

- You'll help save energy by switching off lights and other electrical equipment when no one's using them.
- You'll help us shrink our carbon footprint by using approved teleconferencing tools (like Lync) to cut down on journeys.
- You'll keep trying to find ways to throw away less, and recycle more.

- You'll use your creativity and influence to encourage the people around you to use less, throw away less and recycle more too.

3.3 Buying and selling ethically

We're a public broadcaster that receives a lot of public money. But we also have a commercial side that's competing with private companies all over the world. That means we have to be extremely careful to make sure we never exploit our position as a public broadcaster to give us an unfair advantage in the market – and to be open and fair in how we decide who to buy from, sell to or work with.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll give you the training you need to get the best value for money in all our commercial dealings and negotiations.
- We'll have clear policies that explain what is and isn't acceptable, and make them available for everyone across the BBC to see.
- We'll get you specialist advice if you need it.

What we can expect from you

If you work in the public side of the BBC

- You'll get advice (and approval, if necessary) from our Fair Trading and/or Competition Law teams before launching any new services or making major changes to existing ones. Especially if they're commercial, unlike anything we've ever done before, or potentially controversial.

If you work in the commercial side of the BBC (BBCW, Global News Ltd, StudioWorks and BBC Studios)

- You'll get advice (and approval, if necessary) from your regulatory team, or our Fair Trading and/or Competition Law teams, before launching or changing any major new products, projects or services.

3.4 Spending wisely

Whenever we're spending licence fee money – including claiming expenses – whatever we're spending it on must fit our values and strategy, and represent the best possible value for money for our licence fee payers. We hold ourselves to the highest environmental and ethical standards. And we expect our suppliers (and their suppliers) to do the same.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll give you the training you need to get the best value for money in all our commercial dealings and negotiations.
- We'll make sure our policies and guidelines never leave you out of pocket for anything you do as part of your job.
- We'll have clear guidelines and policies on expenses that explain clearly what you can or can't claim for, and we'll make sure everyone across the BBC can see them.

What we can expect from you

- You'll read and stick to our policies on expenses and buying and selling ethically – and complete any training.

- You'll only claim for things you genuinely need to do your job.
- You'll always remember you're spending licence fee money – and treat it with the same care you would your own.
- You'll make sure anyone you buy from or work with has been checked out to make sure they live up to our standards.

3.5 Being social

These days, more and more people are turning to social media for their news, entertainment and public debate. And as a public broadcaster, we need to be on those platforms, joining in those conversations, to help people find and discover our content and enjoy more of what we have to offer.

At the same time, social media can be a highly sensitive space. So we need to be extremely careful that whatever we say or share lives up to our values and editorial standards.

What you can expect from the BBC

- We'll have a clear policy on social media, which explains what is and isn't acceptable. And we'll make sure everyone at the BBC can see it.
- We'll give you the training you need to put our policies into practice in your day-to-day work.

If you are responsible for or contribute to a BBC account:

- You won't say or share anything that might damage the BBC's reputation.
- You'll think carefully before liking or retweeting anything that makes it look like the BBC is expressing an opinion (especially if it's about politics or religion).
- You'll talk to the relevant Interactive Editor or senior editorial figure, as well as the relevant Head of Marketing, before starting any new social media projects.
- You'll remember that many of the users on social media sites are young and you'll only post or share things which reflect that.
- You'll check the ads that show up on BBC-branded pages on non-BBC sites, to make sure they're appropriate.
- You won't step in and 'police' non-BBC sites unless you have to (i.e. it's so offensive, we need to speak out against it).
- You won't use 'BBC' pages or accounts to express personal views.

If you have your own personal social media pages:

- You won't say or share anything that might damage the BBC's reputation.
- You'll think carefully before liking or retweeting anything that makes it look like the BBC is expressing an opinion (especially if it's about politics or religion).

Useful Links

Please note, if you're trying to access hyperlinks in this document, some may not be available outside the BBC network. If you have any questions regarding our Code of Conduct please contact your line manager in the first instance.

Training is available for permanent and FTC employees only unless specifically agreed with freelancers by their BBC HR contact or manager.

- BBC Policy documents A-Z - <https://intranet.gateway.bbc.co.uk/fo/hr/policies> (freelancers, please visit thefreelancer portal to access appropriate policies)
- Raising Concerns Gateway page - <https://intranet.gateway.bbc.co.uk/fo/hr/resolving-issues>
- Working with Children Gateway page - <https://intranet.gateway.bbc.co.uk/fo/ssr/working-with-children>
- BBC Values Gateway page - <https://intranet.gateway.bbc.co.uk/fo/hr/working-in-the-bbc/Pages/values.aspx>
- BBC Editorial Guidelines - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/editorialguidelines/guidelines>
- Safety, Security and Resilience Gateway page - [https://intranet.gateway .bbc.co.uk/fo/ssr](https://intranet.gateway.bbc.co.uk/fo/ssr)
- Albert sustainable production (external link) - <http://wearealbert.org/>

If you work for BBC Worldwide please go to - <http://w-space/privacy/privacy/policies-guidelines>

This document is subject to change – please visit Gateway for the most up to date version.