



JUNE 24-26 | MCDONALD, PA  
SOUTH FAYETTE HIGH SCHOOL

# FORGING STUDENT LEADERS

## 2019 NATIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL CONFERENCE

### Acceptable Conduct and Safe Environment Policy

The National Student Council (NatStuCo) is committed to creating and maintaining an environment in which all persons feel safe and comfortable.

Harassment and discrimination express disrespect, abuse of authority, undermine relationships, and interfere with learning and productive work. They are also illegal. The cooperation of all student delegates and advisers will ensure a positive experience for everyone.

NASSP/NatStuCo expressly prohibits any form of harassment based on race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, age, disability, or gender that has the purpose or effect of:

1. Substantially interfering with an attendee or staff member's ability to participate in or monitor conference activities
2. Creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment

### Some examples of unacceptable conduct include:

- Any group or individual activity (i.e., icebreakers, songs, etc.) designed to promote or facilitate inappropriate or sexually suggestive touching of another person or oneself
- Unwanted touching, grabbing, or groping
- Suggestive whistling, leering, staring, stalking, or hazing
- Foul or obscene language
- Lewd, off-color, inappropriate, or sexually oriented comments and/or jokes
- Harassment or discrimination expressed through slurs, jokes, teasing, pranks, innuendo, stereotyping, or otherwise
- Suggestive or sexually explicit pictures
- Unwanted or offensive letters, notes, voicemail messages, social media postings, texts, or email messages

### Incident Reporting and Follow-up Procedures

1. Students should report incidents as soon as possible to their advisers (this includes an adviser who is acting in the stead of the home school adviser). If the student's adviser cannot be contacted immediately, the student should report it directly to a national staff member.
2. Once an incident is reported, the student will be separated from the environment or persons involved to ensure his/her safety and well-being.
3. The national staff will conduct an investigation of the incident to determine what actions should be taken and if local authorities will be contacted. State law governing each conference site will dictate involvement of local authorities. (In most states, there is a legal obligation to report specific incidents involving minors, and all national staff will adhere to this.)
4. National staff will review the investigative findings with the adviser and will conduct any communications with parents, school officials, or other parties.
5. Any person found in violation of this policy has the right to appeal any actions/decisions of the national staff to NASSP. This does not apply to incidents requiring the intervention of local authorities, as state and federal law will supersede any authority of National Student Council Conference staff.
6. The NASSP offices will keep on file all written records of an incident for seven years.

NatStuCo prohibits any form of retaliation against any student or staff member for filing a bona fide complaint under this policy or assisting in a complaint investigation.

## STUDENT PARTICIPANT COMMITMENT FORM

All student delegates are required to adhere to the policies and guidelines listed below. Violation of any of these expectations may result in a student being sent home at his/her expense.

### Delegate Etiquette

1. Always display the appropriate mode of attire and behavior that is representative of any student leader. Because the National Student Council Conference is held in the summer, students may dress casually, but appropriately. The following clothing is not acceptable attire: any clothing that reveals midriffs, cleavage, open back, or torsos; cutout or frayed clothing; tank tops with extra large arms and neck holes or straps narrower than 1 inch; or clothing with ads for alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or with profanity, sexual pictures, or inference to these items. Students wearing prohibited/inappropriate apparel will be asked to change by their conference adviser or NatStuCo staff.
2. Undergarments, shirts/tops, shorts/skirts/dresses, and shoes must be worn at all times. Skirts or dresses should be no shorter than two inches above the knee. Shorts need to be fingertip length.

### Conference Guidelines

1. Wear the appropriate conference name badge to all conference general sessions, breakout sessions, and activities.
2. Attend all conference sessions at the designated times and places. For the duration of the conference, delegates cannot deviate from the stated schedule.
3. Use of headphones or electronic devices, including cellphones, iPods, MP3 players, iPads, e-books, and handheld games are prohibited during any meeting, activity, or general session, unless their use is expressly directed by a conference official.
4. Food, drink, noisemakers, or throwing/bouncing any objects are prohibited in general sessions.
5. Respect the rights and safety of others as outlined in the Safe Environment Policy. Students exhibiting irresponsible behavior that endangers the health, safety, or welfare of themselves or others will be sent home immediately at their expense.
6. Stay in a safe, supervised environment. Students should not leave the hotel or school at any time without approved adult supervision.
7. Understand that the use of alcohol, tobacco products, or illegal drugs, as well as the possession of any type of weapon (play or real), is strictly prohibited. Any student found possessing or under the influence of any illegal drug, tobacco, or alcohol, or possessing a weapon will be expelled from the conference, turned over to his or her adviser, and sent home immediately at his or her expense. The national office will notify both the student's school principal and parents of the infraction.
8. Respect the property of others. Students are not to take objects from conference areas or any other property visited. Theft and vandalism will not be tolerated. Delegates must obey the rules of the conference facilities. The facilities have the right to ask a delegate or delegates to leave. Individuals are responsible for damages to property or furnishings, and will pay for their repair or replacement.

### Hotel and School Etiquette

1. Abide by all hotel and school policies.
2. Be courteous to other hotel guests and honor their need for rest. As guests in hotels, students should observe any reasonable requests or rules made by the management, including curfew. Once curfew begins, students are required to stay in their rooms. The adviser and other designated chaperones are responsible for supervision of their students. If there are any disruptions reported to the hotel, the adviser will be notified to correct the situation. Security guards will be scheduled for your safety.
3. Students must stay in their assigned hotels and rooms, and should not be in any hotel sleeping room other than their own. Under no circumstances are students permitted to be in the hotel room of a student of the opposite gender without an adult/adviser present.
4. Please do not congregate in public areas of the hotel, i.e., halls, lobbies, etc. Remember that you are not the only guests at the hotel.
5. Do not run in hallways. Noise should be kept at a low, reasonable volume, especially in the hotel. Do not engage in any ball throwing or similar activity that may damage hotel rooms or school facilities.
6. Trash (including pizza boxes, cans, etc.) must be placed in the proper receptacles and not left on guest or meeting room floors.
7. The use of swimming pools, spas, whirlpools, adjacent pool areas, and fitness rooms are not a part of the conference program. Any use thereof is at the personal risk of students, advisers, and/or chaperones. NatStuCo and NASSP assume no liability for accidents or injuries that may occur in or around pool and fitness facilities, and any and all public areas, hotel properties, shopping malls, restaurants, etc.

Your signatures below indicate that the student and parent/guardian have read and discussed the above guidelines and are in agreement with these expectations. In addition, by signing this form, you are hereby giving consent to NASSP (National Association of Secondary School Principals, sponsor of NatStuCo), its Corporate Sponsor(s), and Affiliates to use photographs and videotaped images of you/your minor child for promotional, editorial, and advertising purposes and vendors.

Student name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

School name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENTS:** Please give this signed form to your conference adviser.

Conference Adviser Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_

School name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

State (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Conference adviser (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**ADVISERS:** Please keep the original of this form and submit a photocopy during conference registration on Monday, June 24, along with your signed Adviser Commitment Form.