

Code of Conduct

Introduction

Welcome to the S.T.E.E.L (Students Thriving in Engineering & Emerging Leadership) Project! We are committed to providing a welcoming, safe, and respectful environment for everyone involved. This Code of Conduct outlines our expectations for participants, as well as the consequences for unacceptable behavior.

Our Commitment

We are dedicated to fostering an inclusive and supportive community where students from all backgrounds can thrive. All participants, mentors, and organizers are expected to adhere to this Code of Conduct.

Expected Behavior

- **Respect:** Treat everyone with kindness and respect. This includes being considerate of diverse viewpoints, backgrounds, and experiences.
- **Collaboration:** Work together in a spirit of cooperation and mutual support. Share knowledge and help others succeed.
- **Inclusivity:** Encourage participation from all individuals regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or level of experience.
- **Professionalism:** Maintain a professional attitude during all interactions. Communicate clearly and constructively, especially when giving or receiving feedback.
- **Honesty:** Be truthful in your communications and transparent about your abilities and contributions.

Unacceptable Behavior

- **Harassment:** Harassment of any kind, including but not limited to verbal, physical, or written harassment, is strictly prohibited. This includes offensive comments related to gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, or disability.
- **Discrimination:** Discriminatory behavior or language that excludes or alienates participants is not allowed.
- **Disruptive Conduct:** Deliberate disruption of discussions, activities, or collaborative efforts is unacceptable.
- **Plagiarism:** Presenting someone else's work as your own, or failing to give appropriate credit, is not tolerated.
- **Inappropriate Communication:** Any communication that is offensive, disrespectful, or inappropriate will not be tolerated.

Reporting Violations

If you experience or witness behavior that violates this Code of Conduct, please report it immediately to the project organizers via email at scottclare5@gmail.com or through our anonymous reporting form <https://forms.gle/IPN519tJefe4uw2C9>. All reports will be handled with discretion, and confidentiality will be maintained as much as possible.

Consequences of Unacceptable Behavior

Participants who violate this Code of Conduct may face consequences, including but not limited to:

- **Warning:** A written warning regarding the behavior.
- **Suspension:** Temporary removal from project activities or support.
- **Expulsion:** Permanent removal from the project without refund.
- **Reporting:** In serious cases, behavior may be reported to relevant authorities.

Conclusion

Our goal is to create a positive and empowering environment where everyone can learn and grow. By participating in the S.T.E.E.L Project, you agree to abide by this Code of Conduct. Thank you for helping us maintain a welcoming and inclusive community.