



Conference Expectations

The 2025 Secondary Student Conference *Choice to Voice* will be conducted in person using the Ala Moana Hotel and the Hawai'i State Capitol facilities. As this is an event sponsored by the Hawai'i Department of Education in partnership with the Hawai'i State Legislature, we ask all participants to observe the following:

- 1) All Chapter 19 and school rules apply. Please be mindful of your attire as this is a business-casual event unless school shirts are noted.
- 2) Remember, you represent your school.
- 3) Please follow all Pre-Conference and Conference rules, especially concerning debate. You will receive one warning for any offensive language or words that put another delegate down. After the warning, you will be removed from the Conference and referred to your School's Conference Point of Contact and Administrator.
- 4) Be Prompt and Attend the following Conference dates on time:
 - a) Conference #1: January 30, 2025; 6:30 pm - 11:00 pm (report to Hibiscus Ballroom)
 - b) Conference #2: January 31, 2025; 6:30 am - 11:00 pm
 - c) Debate Day #1: February 1, 2025; 6:30 am - 4:00 pm (Depart from the Capitol)
- 5) Failure to attend all the aforementioned Conference dates may result in your removal as a delegate on behalf of your school by your Conference Point of Contact.
- 6) A shirt will be given to those who attend all three days of the Conference.

Safe Environment

Participants, including moderators, leaders, and administrators, are expected to treat each other with courtesy and respect. Offensive or inappropriate language is not to be used in any form of communication. Participants are certainly allowed to disagree with each other and be critical but must do so in a civil manner.

Harassment and discrimination are illegal and express disrespect and abuse of authority, as well as undermine relationships and interfere with learning and productive work. The Hawai'i State Student Council 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 substantially interfering with a participant or staff member's ability to participate in or monitor program activities, or which creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

Examples of **POSITIVE WAYS** to help maintain and build a safe community include:

- Listening and learning, and being respectful of differing opinions, viewpoints, and experiences
- Respecting the space for the intended learning, engagement, and experience objectives for all attendees/participants
- Giving and accepting constructive feedback, when applicable
- Demonstrating empathy and kindness toward other people
- Accepting responsibility and apologizing to those affected by our mistakes, and learning from the experience

Examples of **UNACCEPTABLE** behavior include:

- The use of sexualized language or imagery and sexual attention or advances of any kind
- The possession and/or use of any alcoholic beverages, tobacco, illicit drugs, or narcotics
- Insulting or derogatory comments, and personal or political attacks
- Public or private harassment, or bullying
- Publishing others' private information, such as a physical or email address, or photos without their explicit permission
- Other conduct that could reasonably be considered inappropriate in an educational and professional setting

Enforcement Responsibilities

The Hawai'i State Student Council will take responsibility for enforcing standards of acceptable behavior and will take appropriate and fair corrective action in response to any behavior that it deems inappropriate, threatening, offensive, or harmful.

The Hawai'i State Student Council has the right and responsibility to remove, edit, or reject comments, and other contributions in the Hawai'i State Student Council's online spaces that are not aligned to this Online Code of Conduct and will communicate reasons for moderator moderation decisions when appropriate.