National Student Safety Program

The youth safety organization of the American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association
This handbook and Code of Conduct was developed by former NSSP Executive Board members.

**NSSP CODE OF CONDUCT**

Set the example
Hold a positive attitude
Keep an open mind
Encourage full participation
Be supportive and attentive
Respect one another
Communicate courteously

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**NSSP Goals**

The goal of the National Student Safety Program (NSSP) is to encourage and assist students as they implement safety activities within their schools and community. NSSP chapters teach students to work together to help prevent injuries and save lives on the nation’s highways. Students are made aware of the safety issues and problems, especially those involving teenagers. Students are then challenged to come up with strategies to make changes within their community and do their part as responsible citizens to make a difference.

**Conference Goals**

An annual conference is held every during summer to educate students and advisors on the needs and benefits of safety activities. Students are empowered with leadership building activities, encouragement, ideas, and resources that they can take back to their schools to implement and/or share with others. The conference provides a memorable learning experience for the students, recognition for doing a good job, motivation to continue, and ideas and strategies to strengthen their chapter programs.

“You get back what energy you put into the conference. It is a learning program presented in a fun format. You meet peers from other states that have something in common with you. They care about others and want to do something to help prevent friends and families from making poor decisions.”

*Richard McLeod, Hawaii
NSSP 2003 College Student of the Year*
Conference Rules and Regulations

Rules are established for a reason and for the most part are all “no-brainers” that are naturally followed anyway. These are the general rules.

1. This conference is about making good choices. Thus alcohol and other drugs, smoking, and “purpleing” (see rule #3) are prohibited. All school rules apply.

2. We welcome you to the host city a day or two early to explore the city. After the conference is underway, you are obligated to remain on the conference site.

3. Boys are “blue” and girls are “pink” – don’t make any “purple!” Therefore boys are not allowed in the girl’s rooms and vice versa. The obvious ways of mixing the two colors are also not allowed! This is a wholesome, PG-rated event!

4. Respect others at all times – even if you feel they were in the wrong. You are expected to remain attentive during all general sessions, workshops, and whenever anyone is addressing the group as a whole. Please remember to turn off all cell phones during the conference sessions.

5. We believe we are safe to assume that you are at the conference because you want to be. You are not on vacation but representing your school and community at a NATIONAL conference. Attendees should practice all elements of the NSSP Code of Conduct (see front inside cover.)

6. Conference participants are REQUIRED to attend all general sessions, workshops, and meals. These are the reason you came. If illness occurs, consult your advisor for permission to retire to your room for the rest or another area of assistance (hospital, student health clinic).

7. Be on time to everything. Not only is it a token of respect to the presenters, but it will guarantee that you won’t miss anything.

8. Remember you signed a student participant agreement form prior to coming. You are to uphold those terms at all time. We also need to remind everyone that safety is a factor at all times. Running and chasing in the halls and lounges could cause unintentional injuries. Use common courtesy and common sense at all times.

9. As students are representing their state, school and community, there is an expectation that they adhere to basic codes of conduct and school rules. No drinking or smoking at anytime will be allowed. Students will be respectful and refrain from causing any disturbances in their rooms, hotel lobby or hallways.

Students breaking any of these rules will be subject to dismissal of the NSSP program.
**Dress Code**

Please be respectful of different social norms and abide by the code set by students for conference. Abide by wearing a standard T-shirt (crew neck with sleeves), modest shorts or jeans, and appropriate accessories. To simplify your packing, we will have designated a T-shirt category for each day at the conference:

- **Day 1:** State T-shirt
- **Day 2:** School or conference T-shirt
- **Day 3:** T-shirt with Safety Message

All T-shirts may be worn tucked in or left out. (Sorry but mid-drift re-styling of a T-shirt is not acceptable.) We are safety conscious, so we recommend that comfortable walking shoes be worn as opposed to open toe shoes, sandals or slippers. This dress code applies to both students and advisors. It helps us identify our participants at the conference hotel site.

**Awards Program and Banquet Dress Code**

The awards program precedes the banquet. These two activities showcase all of the delegates, award winners, and the excellence of NSSP to the public. The banquet and dance are a final “hoorah” – our time to shine and celebrate. Everyone (students and advisors) is expected to dress appropriately. In accordance to the formality of the closing of the conference, the dress for these two activities will be:

- **Females:** Dress pants and blouse, dress with modest necklines.
- **Males:** Dress slacks and sleeved shirts.

**Name Tags**

Names tags must be worn at all times. They are your meal ticket and identification as an NSSP delegate.

Safety is at the heart of our conference. Your emergency contact names and numbers and medical history will be in your name tag holder. In case of an emergency, we can provide you with immediate attention as all your personal information will be at the tip of our fingers.

Feel free to decorate your name tag with state pins or stickers, but please wear it at all times and make your name visible to us.
Group Activities

The Executive Board works very hard setting up group activities to allow each delegate to meet as many other delegates as possible. Everyone is expected to join in and participate in the planned group events.

Student Workshop Presentations

NSSP wants students who have conducted successful safety projects in their schools and communities to share their information at the conference by conducting a workshop. A “Call for Program” form is sent to each advisor with the conference information. If you want to conduct a workshop, consult with your advisor. The deadline to submit the “Call for Program” for is March 1.

“It’s Our Time to Shine”

Not everyone will have the opportunity to present a workshop at the conference. Thus, every school team is expected to prepare and set up an exhibit table at the ADTSEA conference that highlights the projects and activities they conducted at school. “Freebies” and samples of resource materials are highly encouraged. This is also the time when scrapbook entries submitted for the awards program will be displayed for others to view.

Curfew

The curfew times have been set by the Executive Board and approved by the advisors. We feel it allows everyone a reasonable amount of time to be well rested for the next morning. Even though you may not be tired and ready for bed, you need to be respectful of other students who want to sleep. The hotel lobbies and common areas all have a quiet time restriction.

Free Time

We often hear delegates say that the program did not have enough time to meet other delegates. The group activities were designed specifically to encourage mingling, and there are many other times in the program that allow mingling/networking to occur. We suggest during your meals, breaks, and free time, you network as much as you can.
Menu Selection

NSSP prides itself in the fact that it has traveled across the nation. This allows delegates to see different parts of the country – and to experience the pride and joy of the specific hosting state as far as food, attractions and activities go. This allows the conference to become a cultural experience for everyone.

We have sampled delicacies and cultural practices over the years. In Texas, we enjoyed an outdoor Bar-B-Que. In Hawaii, a luau provided food and entertainment, and in Salt Lake City, the delegates sampled a Dutch oven dinner. Like the saying goes, “do like the natives do” makes one an educated traveler.

When you attend an NSSP conference, know that you are going to get the hospitality of the hosting state and they will be serving you the best delicacies from their region.

Snacks

Each delegate is encouraged to bring some snacks to tide over those times when hunger strikes. However, every delegate must understand that no food is allowed to be removed from the hotel meeting room. Also, if you do enjoy snacks in your room, make sure you dispose of the food wastes properly so that you don’t attract bugs to your room or have unpleasant odors develop. Just use common sense and practice what you would do at home. Keep things simple, clean and neat. Use the trash cans for what they were designed to do.

Awards Program

Each year, NSSP proudly gives awards to groups, individuals and states to recognize their outstanding efforts and thank them for all their hard work during the year in supporting the NSSP mission of saving lives. To learn more about how you can submit an entry to the awards program go online to www.adtsea.org and click on the NSSP link.

Community Service Project

At each conference, NSSP delegates conduct at least one community service project as our way to say thank you to the host city. In Detroit, each delegate brought a book to donate to the children’s library. In Salt Lake City, delegates brought personal hygiene items to donate to a homeless shelter. Make sure you check with your advisor for the complete description of the community service project(s) that will be conducted at the summer conference you will be attending.
Swap Shop – A NSSP Tradition

This activity calls for every delegate to bring as many souvenir items from their home school and state as they want to trade/swap with another delegate from other states. It is a lot of fun and can help you get gift items for friends and family. Popular items are T-shirts, sweatshirts, candy, necklaces, and food products. Use your creativity in finding things you think others would want to have. The bargaining can be a challenge. Enjoy the swap meet experience with delegates and score some great deals.

Packing List – What to Bring

Pack wisely! Bring enough clothes to change twice if you need to, but don’t bring your whole closet!!! Your personal items are a must. We recommend you also bring an insect repellent, anti-itch medication (in case you get bitten), sun screen, a hat, a backpack and sunglasses. (We are safety conscious!) Check the weather report for the conference city and bring a light jacket if need be. Bring a water bottle that you can refill and have with you at all times. Remember to bring a pen and/or pencil and a notepad to take notes at the conference!

You may also want to print up some personal business cards to give to other delegates. This saves you time from writing your name and address over and over.

Lastly, the most important item to bring is an open mind, a great big smile and an eagerness to learn. Being an educated traveler means accepting the different cultures and sites. Appreciate the experience and the hard work of the host state. Have a great conference experience.
NSSP est. 1956

1970 – Mt. Pleasant, MI
1977 – Cheney, WA
1978 – Fort Collins, CO
1980 – Spearfish, SD
1981 – Corvallis, OR
1982 – Niagara Falls, NY
1983 – Mobile, AL
1984 – Huntsville, TX
1985 – Warrensburg, MO
1986 – Long Beach, MS
1987 – Canby, OR
1989 – San Antonio, TX
1991 – St. Cloud, MN
1992 – San Marcos, TX
1993 – Huntsville, AL
1994 – Tacoma, WA
1995 – Orlando, FL
1996 – Honolulu, HI
1997 – Springfield, MO
1998 – St. Cloud, MN
1999 – Clemson, SC
2000 – San Antonio, TX
2001 – Honolulu, HI
2002 – Detroit, MI
2003 – Salt Lake City, UT
2004 – Seattle, WA
2005 – Jackson, MS
2006 – Oklahoma City, OK
2007 – Raleigh, NC
2008 – Branson, MO
2010 – St. Louis, MO
2011 – Honolulu, HI
2012 – Appleton, WI
2013 – Portland, ME
2014 – Wichita, KS
2015 – Raleigh, NC
2016 – Portland, OR
2017 – Sacramento, CA
2018 – Rosemont, IL
2019 – Burlington, VT
2021 – Knoxville, TN