# Western Engineering Outreach Code of Conduct

Western Engineering Outreach aims to offer STEM outreach experiences where everyone feels safe and included. We believe that STEM is for everyone. Our Code of Conduct and behavioral management approach helps ensure the safety and inclusion of all participants as well as a fun and positive experience for all!

## **Our Program Participant's Role**

As a participant with Western Engineering Outreach you have the right to feel safe and supported. You have the right to be treated with respect and you must treat others with respect. To help ensure all participants are safe and treated with dignity, all program participants must follow our Code of Conduct and understand our "Green Light – Yellow Light – Red Light" approach to behavioral management.

## Our Approach: Green Light – Yellow Light – Red Light

Our Code of Conduct and behavioral management approach serves to ensure our expectations are clear, and that the escalation of unwanted or unsafe behavior is consistent. Our instructors work proactively with youth participants to decrease the likelihood of "Red Light" behavior, as outlined below. Our instructors will act appropriately if this behavior is exhibited by any of our program participants. Our approach is to validate our participants' experiences while ensuring a safe environment for everyone.

#### Green Light

- Caring
- Participating
- Active listening
- Respectful
- Sharing
- Honest
- Responsible
- Using kind language
- Following instructions
- Remain with their group and instructors

Green Light behaviors are met with positive reinforcement!

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#### Yellow Light

- Disrespectful to others
- Not listening to others, including fellow participants, instructors and special guests
- Leaving session boundaries
- Not following activity rules
- Play fighting/rough play
- Dishonesty
- Hurtful words or actions
- Exclusive behavior towards others

Yellow Light behaviors will be met with conversations to help participants understand expectations and how to make different choices in the future. Instructors will speak with families at sign out to notify caregivers of behavioral concerns. If there are three or more Yellow Light behaviors in a week, our staff will schedule a time to discuss the behavior with the parent/guardian as it may impact the ability of the participant to stay enrolled in our programming.

### **Red Light**

- Fighting or Physical aggression
- Possession of weapon
- Stealing, vandalism or causing deliberate damage to our facilities and equipment
- Hitting or throwing objects with intent to cause harm
- Use foul, abusive or inappropriate language
- Verbal aggression, or threatening/intimidating behavior
- Any unwanted or unconsented touching
- Repeat "Yellow light" behavior

Red Light behaviors will be met with a call home to the parents/caregiver listed in the participant intake form, and they will be required to pick up the participant immediately. Their ability to return to our programming will depend on the other participants' safety as well as the willingness of both the participant and their family to address the behavior.

Any suspensions or expulsions due to uncooperative, unwanted or unsafe behavior will <u>not be refunded</u>.



### Parent/Caregiver Role

Western Engineering Outreach values the role parents/caregivers play. Parents/caregivers are expected to discuss this Code of Conduct with the youth they are registering for our programs as well as support our instructors with any disciplinary actions. In the event of Yellow Light or Red Light behaviors, it is our expectation that parents/caregivers will have a conversation with the participant to remind them of our Code of Conduct and their role in creating a safe environment for all.

We ask that parents/caregivers communicate regularly with our instructors about any challenges their participant may be experiencing that may impact their behavior.

