

Code of Conduct AuSM Coffee Club

The AuSM Coffee Club is a safe space where autistic adults can connect, foster friendships, and build community. This event is free, but participants are expected to purchase an item from the venue and may donate to AuSM if they would like to support future events.

Everyone is welcome regardless of their communication or support needs. AuSM provides an attendant to facilitate the gathering but does not provide direct support. Since the AuSM Coffee Club is an informal gathering, participants are encouraged to bring friends, family, or direct support professionals as needed.

AuSM is dedicated to providing a safe and inviting experience for everyone. This code of conduct outlines how we expect all participants to behave during the event and extends to interactions that occur outside of the event when those connections originate from mutual participation in AuSM Coffee Club sessions.

Expected Behavior

AuSM believes that our community does great things when we work together. To make that happen, we expect participants will:

- Treat each other with respect, kindness, and an open mind.
- Be mindful of personal space (including mobility devices and service animals) and ask permission before touching anyone.
- When pursuing an ongoing social or professional connection, please offer the other person your contact information instead of asking for theirs.
- Recognize that our participants come from a variety of backgrounds. You may encounter viewpoints and beliefs that are very different from your own. Please come with curiosity and acceptance of other viewpoints.
- Respect our venue: pick up after yourself, keep walkways clear, and treat the space kindly.

Harassment and Discrimination

AuSM does not tolerate discrimination, prejudice, or harassment

Harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- Physical assault or battery
- Offensive verbal comments
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Unwelcome physical attention
- Intimidation or hostility
- Stalking
- Display of hateful iconography
- Non-consensual photography or recording

Discrimination and prejudiced behavior include any slurs, jokes, derogatory or demeaning comments, or offensive language related but not limited to:

- Race
- Color
- Culture
- National origin
- Disability
- Gender
- Gender identity
- Gender presentation
- Sexual orientation
- Religion
- Age
- Body size

Dealing With Inappropriate Behavior

If you are subjected to harassment or discrimination or see someone else being subjected to harassment or discrimination, you can point out the behavior to the person involved or you can speak to the AuSM attendant on-site. Let them know you want to report discrimination, harassment, or inappropriate behavior. You can also email education@ausm.org to report events that have occurred.

AuSM staff will intervene or work with the person involved to ensure it does not happen again. If an attendee violates the code of conduct, staff will work with them to address the issue. If a solution cannot be found or the attendee continues to violate the code of conduct, they may be asked to leave, or refrain from attending future sessions.