



Title: #VI-3C. Prohibition of Hazing

Date: March 13, 2025 (Last reviewed June 12, 1996)

Hazing is not permitted either in student organizations or in the informal gatherings of students. All acts of hazing by any organization, individual, college personnel, or alumnus, are specifically forbidden. According to West Virginia's Anti-Hazing Law (State Code [18-16-2](#)), "any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of another person or persons or causes another person or persons to destroy or remove public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in, any organization the members of which are primarily students or alumni of an institution of higher education."

Such activities and situations include, but are not limited to: "acts of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, required consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, or any other required physical activity which could reasonably be deemed to adversely affect the physical health and safety of the person or persons so treated, and includes any activity which would subject the person or persons so treated to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, required conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other required activity which could reasonably be deemed to adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the person or persons so treated, or any willful destruction or removal of public or private property."

Any person who is involved in acts of hazing will be subject to the college's disciplinary procedures. According to West Virginia's law (State Code [18-16-3](#)), "Any person who causes hazing is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000, or confined in jail for not more than nine months, or both fined and confined."

Responsible Administrator: Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, 304-424-8242