



MANUAL OF POLICY

TITLE	Anti-Hazing/Hazing Prevention	POLICY 7.071
LEGAL AUTHORITY	1001.64(8)(e), 1006.50, 1006.63, 1006.60 F.S., Stop Campus Hazing Act, Pub. No. 118-173, 34 (2024)	PAGE 1 of 2

In compliance with the Stop Campus Hazing Act, this institution is committed to promote safety by preventing, addressing, and documenting hazing incidents.

The college shall not tolerate hazing. Hazing means any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for purposes including, but not limited to:

- Initiation into any organization operating under the sanction of the college;
- Admission to any organization operating under the sanction of the college;
- Affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of the college;
- The perpetuation or furtherance of a tradition or ritual of any organization operating under the sanction of the college.

The term includes, but is not limited to, pressuring or coercing the student into violating state or federal law; any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the student; any activity that would subject the student to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment, causing, coercing, or inducing another person to perform sexual acts, the use of threatening words or conduct which causes reasonable fear of bodily harm, or other forced activity that could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the student. The term does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions or any activity that furthers a legal and legitimate objective.

1. This rule shall apply to students and college organizations, including acting through other persons associated with a college organization who are not students.
2. Violations of this rule by individual students shall be enforced in accordance with the college's disciplinary rule as outlined in the Student Handbook.
3. Violations of this rule may subject an individual student to the following penalties: disciplinary probation, dismissal, restitution.
4. Any college organization that is accused of hazing shall be subject to an immediate investigation and any disciplinary action resulting from the investigation.
5. Students, college personnel, or community members who, upon investigation, have been found culpable of hazing shall be subject to criminal investigation.
6. All college organizations are required to include the anti-hazing rule in its bylaws.
7. Each organization advisor and student member is required to complete training to ensure a safe and transparent environment at Gulf Coast State College.
8. The college shall provide each student with a copy of the college's anti-hazing rule and penalties by publication in the Student Handbook.



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A person commits hazing, *a third degree felony*, punishable as provided in 775.082 F.S. or 775.083 F.S., when he or she intentionally or recklessly commits, solicits a person to commit, or is actively involved in the planning of any act of hazing as described above upon another person who is a member or an applicant to any type of student organization and the hazing *results* in serious bodily injury or death of such other person.

A person commits hazing, *a first degree misdemeanor*, punishable as provided in 775.082 F.S. or 775.083 F.S., when he or she intentionally or recklessly commits any act of hazing as defined above upon another person who is a member or an applicant to any type of student organization and the hazing *creates* a substantial risk of physical injury or death to such other person.

Each hazing incident should be reported and investigated:

1. Reporting- anyone who witnesses hazing is responsible for reporting it to the office of the Dean of Student Life or the Campus Safety Office.
2. Investigation and Adjudication-
 - a. Upon receiving a report, the Dean of Student Life, in collaboration with the Campus Safety Officer, will initiate the investigation beginning within 48 hours.
 - i. interview with relevant parties
 - ii. review of evidence (e.g., emails, posts, videos)
 - iii. document investigation within our secure platform

Date Adopted/Amended: 2-16-89, 11-5-92, 11-21-19, 5-15-25