

Winthrop University Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs Hazing Policy Compliance Form

All Winthrop fraternities and sororities must file this form with the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs to certify compliance with this policy. The preceding document remains in effect until the new one is filed. The document filed must always have the most current officers and advisor sign.

South Carolina Law (59-101-200)

Hazing means the wrongful striking, laying open hand upon, threatening with violence, or offering to do bodily harm by a superior student to a subordinate student with intent to punish or injure the subordinate student, or other unauthorized treatment by the superior student of a subordinate student of a tyrannical, abusive, shameful, insulting, or humiliating nature. Hazing at all state supported universities, colleges, and public institutions of higher learning is prohibited. When an investigation has disclosed substantial evidence that a student has committed an act or acts of hazing, the student may be dismissed, expelled, suspended, or punished as the president considers appropriate.

Winthrop University Hazing Policy

HAZING is defined as any action taken or situation created, which produces mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities and situations include assault in any form, creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks, wearing apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste, nudity; situations or tasks that interfere with scholastic activities, and any other activities which are not consistent with the regulations and policies of Winthrop University and otherwise isolate or create different standards for new members for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with a chartered or non-chartered student organization. Consistent with state law, it is a violation of the hazing policy for any person to 1) knowingly permit or assist any person in committing hazing activities or 2) failing to promptly report hazing activities to the appropriate university official. The implied or express consent of a person to participate in hazing does not constitute a defense to violations of the hazing policy.

EXAMPLES OF HAZING: Depending upon circumstances, the following activities have, at one time or another, been construed by the courts and/or institutions of higher education as hazing. Such activities are often required or implied as conditions of inclusion or exclusion from a group, formal or informal. Hazing, therefore, may be perpetuated by individual(s) against individual(s), individual(s) against the group, the group against individual(s) or group against group.

1. "PT" (Physical Training): requiring calisthenics such as sit-ups, running or any form of physically abusive or excessive exercise; any physical action or restraint that may inflict harm or pain on an individual(s) or place them in a position or situation of possible harm or threat.
2. Forcing, requiring, recommending and/or coercing consumption of alcoholic beverages or any other kind of drug; requiring ingestion of an undesirable or unwanted substance (food, drink, concoction).
3. Harassment or bullying, whether verbal, mental or physical of individual(s) or group(s).
4. Scavenger hunts that require or result in theft; forced or coerced road trips, dangerous activities, and/or kidnapping.
5. Endorsing or conducting pranks such as borrowing or stealing items, destruction of property or objects, pulling false fire alarms, or any other activity in violation of the law.
6. Personal servitude (doing chores or errands for the group(s) or individual members).
7. Sleep interruption or deprivation; conducting activities that do not allow adequate time to study.
8. Degrading, humiliating or embarrassing games or activities.
9. Line-ups or any interrogation for information about the history, purpose or direction of the organization that is not consistent with legitimate testing.
10. Forced isolation from other members, friends or the rest of the campus. This includes any prohibition on speaking or social interaction (including public marching or walking in lines or "on line.")
11. Deception and/or threats contrived to convince the pledge he/she will not be able to join the organization or that inflicts mental stress by not revealing the requirements or basic timetable for joining.

Anti-Hazing Agreement

We, the undersigned, certify the following:

1. We have read AND understand Winthrop's Hazing Policy as outlined in the Membership Policy and Student Conduct Code
2. We have read and understand the South Carolina Hazing Law
3. We have read and understand our National Hazing Policy
4. We verify that this policy will be read to our chapter on _____ (date)
5. We verify that all new members will receive a copy of this policy
6. We verify that all activities sponsored or required by our chapter, in whole or part, comply with this policy.
7. Failure of my organization to uphold this policy, in whole or part, will result in the referral of my organization and any individual members involved for discipline.
8. **Furthermore, if a hazing incident occurs, the president and new member educator/intake coordinator may be referred to the Dean of Student's Office for supplying false information to a University Official (if they knew of the hazing occurring and did not take steps to stop it.)**
9. **If I suspect, see, or know hazing activities are occurring, it is my responsibility to report these activities to the appropriate office.**

By signing this form we agree to abide by the above.

Fraternity or Sorority

President Name Printed

Signature

Date

New Member Educator/Intake Coordinator Name Printed

Signature

Date

Chapter/Grad Advisor Name Printed

Signature

Date

Start Date for New Member Education: _____

End Date for New Member Education: _____