

SECTION: 5.0 STUDENTS

SUBJECT: HAZING PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Title: Hazing Prevention and Response

Background: Per the federal Stop Campus Hazing Policy of 2024, LC State or the college is publishing specified information related to the college's anti-hazing policy and hazing prevention programs.

Point of Contact: Sr. Vice President/Vice President for Student Affairs

Other LC State offices directly involved with implementation of this policy, or significantly affected by the policy: Public Safety, Student Counseling, Title IX Coordinator, Residence Life, Human Resource Services

Date of approval by LC State authority: May 2025

Date of State Board Approval: N/A

Date of Most Recent Review: New Policy

Summary of Major Changes incorporated in this revision to the policy: New Policy

1. Legal Background

The Federal Stop Campus Hazing Act requires institutions of higher education that participate in federal student aid programs to disclose reported hazing incidents in its annual security report. Institutions are also required to develop a policy outlining the institution's definition of hazing, the process for reporting incidents of hazing, and measures adopted to prevent hazing.

2. Scope

All employees and volunteers at LC State, including student employees, are required to report hazing if, as a result of observations or information received in the course of employment or volunteer service, any employee has reasonable cause to believe that hazing has occurred. Current students have a responsibility to report hazing if they have reason to believe it has occurred or is occurring. A person who witnesses hazing or has reasonable cause to believe hazing has occurred or will occur and makes a report in good faith may not be sanctioned or punished for the violation of hazing unless the person is directly engaged in the planning, directing, or act of hazing reported.

3. Definitions

- A. **Hazing:** Hazing includes any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed as part of a person's recruitment, initiation into, pledging, admission into, or affiliation with a student organization, athletic team, administrative unit, or living group, or any pastime that is likely to cause bodily danger or physical harm, or serious psychological or emotional harm, to any student. This includes causing, directing, coercing, or forcing a person to consume any food, liquid, alcohol, drug, or other substance that subjects the person to risk of such harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate.
- i. Hazing is defined as any activity that includes one or more of the characteristics described below:
 - a) Activities that expose personal values to compromise or ridicule.
 - b) Activities that abuse the trust an organization is striving to build between its members and prospective members.
 - c) Stunts that have no meaningful relationship to the objectives of the organization and cause or create a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation

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in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in and athletic team), or physical or psychological injury.

- d) Activities that humiliate or subject individuals to circumstances with which they are not comfortable, or of which they are fearful.
- e) Activities that are illegal or violate LC State policy.
- f) Activities that interfere with academic pursuits or normal life functions.
- ii. A non-exhaustive list of prohibited activities includes:
 - a) Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of harmful substance on someone's body, or similar activity;
 - b) Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;
 - c) Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
 - d) Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;
 - e) Any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct.
- B. **Reasonable cause:** means a person who witnesses hazing or receives a credible written or oral report alleging hazing or a potential or planned hazing activity.
- C. **Student Organization:** an organization at an institution of higher education (such as a club, society, association, athletic team, club sports team, band, or student government) in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at the institution of higher education, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by the institution.

4. Reporting Hazing

- A. Reports of alleged hazing should be submitted through LC State's Public Safety online reporting portal: <https://www.lcsc.edu/public-safety/clery-actcrime-awareness/secret-witness/report-a-crime> or by phone at 208-792-2815.
- B. Incidents of hazing are subject to investigation and may be adjudicated under the Student Code of Conduct or the institution's personnel policies.

5. Hazing Prevention Education

- A. LC State's Hazing Prevention Education program will consist of annual reviews of the institution's Hazing Prevention and Response policy during new student orientation programs, student clubs and organizations training, Resident Assistant training, and annual athletic team meetings.
- B. All LC State employees will be required to review the Hazing Prevention and Response policy as part of the required annual employee training series.

6. The Campus Hazing Transparency Report

The institution will publish a semi-annual transparency report on hazing that summarizes the findings concerning student organization found to be in violation of the standards of conduct and will include: alcohol, drug, or other substance that subjects the person to risk of such harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate.

- i. The name of the student organization;
- ii. A general description of the violation;

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- iii. Related dates of the alleged incident, the initial date of investigation and conclusion of the investigation.