



BOSTON COLLEGE

Hazing Policy

Office of the Director of Student Life

any law, which is hereby incorporated into this policy, including, without limitation, any failure to report or address hazing by an individual or conscious violation of this policy or any other applicable law. Anyone becoming aware of any hazing involving Boston College students or staff should report it to the

Hazing refers to any activity or abuse of power by a member of an organization and/or or group of individuals as a condition to affiliate with, hold membership, or join (or to maintain full status in a group) that humiliates, degrades, or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the subject's willingness to participate.

Hazing is a coercive social process that is often driven by power dynamics within a group and/or organization and within a particular cultural context. Hazing activities may

vary widely within these categories, vary widely among participants, groups, and settings. Examples of hazing practices include personal servitude; sleep deprivation; restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing, or insults; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such on one's skin; brandings; physical beatings; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual simulation and sexual assault.

For activities to be considered hazing, forced or mandated participation is not required; hazing may also occur in a non-organized setting. Participants who can reasonably be expected to be ostracized for not participating in (for example, alcohol use).

the willingness of the participant(s) will serve as factors in determining responsibility but may be considered in the application of sanctions.

Examples of Hazing

The following is a non-exhaustive list of hazing behaviors that are commonly observed and is divided into three categories: subtle, harassment, and violent.

A. SUBTLE HAZING

Behaviors that emphasize a power imbalance between individuals and other members of the group or team are termed "subtle hazing" because these types of hazing behaviors are often accepted as "harmless" or "meaningless." Subtle hazing typically involves activities or attitudes that emphasize "unreasonable demands or requirements" on individuals or the entire group. Individuals may feel the need to endure subtle hazing to feel like part of the group or team. Examples include:

Deception

Implied or direct requests to participate in illegal, inappropriate activities

Silent number basing or implied threats for violation

Deprivation of privileges granted to other members

Expecting individuals to perform activities or tasks beyond their capabilities

Socially isolating individuals

Line of conduct that is socially inappropriate

Expecting individuals to perform activities or tasks beyond their capabilities

Expecting certain items to be worn, held, or possessed

B. HARASSMENT HAZING

Harassment hazing

is characterized by the mistreatment of the affected individual in order for the individual to feel like part of the group. Harassment hazing confuses, frustrates, and causes undue stress for the individual.

Examples include:

Verbal abuse

Threats or implied threats

Asking individuals to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire

Stunt or skit nights with degrading, crude, or humiliating acts

Expecting

C. VIOLENT HAZING

Violent hazing includes behaviors that have the potential to cause physical, emotional, or psychological harm. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Forced or coerced (explicit or implied) alcohol or other drug consumption
- Beating, paddling, or other forms of assault

SECTION 11. ISSUANCE TO TEAMS AND ORGANIZATIONS: REPORT

Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post-secondary education shall issue to every student group, student team or student organization which is not of such institution and is maintained by the institution, or permitted by the institution to use its name or facilities or is known by the institution to exist or on its behalf to exist as a part of such institution or organization, a copy of this section and sections seven, ten and eleven, provided, however, that in no

and sections seventeen and eighteen to unaffiliated student groups, teams or organizations shall not constitute evidence of the institution's consent or endorsement

Each such group, team or organization shall distribute a copy of this section and sections

stating that such group, team or organization has received a copy of this section and said

group, team or organization has received a copy of sections seven, ten and eleven from such group, team or organization and agrees to comply with the provisions of sections
sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post-secondary education shall, at least annually, before or at the start of enrollment, deliver to each who enrolls or enrolls as a full time student in such institution a copy of this section, and sections seven and eleven.

Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post-secondary education shall file, at least annually, a report with the board of higher education and in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education, certifying that such institution has complied with its responsibility to inform student groups, teams or organizations and to notify each full time student enrolled in it of the provisions of this

and that such policy has been set forth in writing in an appropriate period of time in such institution's

and in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education shall promulgate regulations governing the content and form of such reports and shall report.