

What is Hazing ?

Please report any inappropriate behavior or concerns about activities to the Sport Club Coordinator, Campus Life Advisor or Director of CSLIS.

Hazing Defined

Hazing is any action or situation, with or without the consent of the participants, which recklessly, intentionally, or unintentionally endangers the mental, physical, or academic health or safety of a student.

This includes, but is not limited to any situation which:

- Creates a risk of injury to any individual or group
- Causes discomfort to any individual or group
- Causes embarrassment to any individual or group
- Involves harassment of any individual or group
- Involves degradation of any individual or group
- Involves humiliation of an individual or group
- Involves ridicule of an individual or group
- Involves or includes the willful destruction or removal of public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in an organization

It includes physical injury, assault or battery, kidnapping or imprisonment, intentionally placing at risk of mental or emotional harm (putting "over the edge"), degradation, humiliation, the compromising of moral or religious values, forced consumption of any liquid or solid, placing an individual in physical danger (at risk) which includes abandonment, and impairment of physical liberties which include curfews or other interference with academic endeavors.

Signs that hazing may be occurring:

- Cutting, branding, labeling, or shaving of parts of the body
- Required "greeting" of members in a specific manner when seen on campus
- Required walking in groups to class, the cafeteria, etc.
- Required carrying of certain items
- Loss of voice due to having to yell
- Performing of special tasks for the members or others
- Required attendance at late night work sessions, resulting in sleep deprivation
- Not coming home for days or weeks at a time
- Not being able to sit down or soreness from paddling
- Physical exhaustion from multiple sit ups, running, or other calisthenics
- Appearance of mental exhaustion or withdrawal from normal lifestyle; change in personality
- Appearance of sadness or expressions of inferiority
- Withdrawal from normal activities or friends
- Being dropped off and made to find the way back

.Things to know about hazing:

- 82% of deaths from hazing involve alcohol, according to noted hazing expert Hank Nuwer
- Hazing is often about power and control. Hazers have a need to feel powerful and in control
- Individuals cannot consent to being hazed
- Hazing motivates no one. It hinders academic achievement, destroys self-esteem and causes emotional strain and physical harm

- Hazing builds animosity between people and does nothing to foster trust, unity or respect. It simply makes better hazers
- You can never be sure you know the physical or mental background of an individual and what the effects of hazing for that person might be
- Just because a majority of the members of an organization are not involved in a hazing incident does not mean the organization is not responsible
- Hazing is not just associated with athletes and Greek-letter organizations. It occurs across a wide spectrum of organizations
- One class can break the "tradition" of hazing- it just takes some courage and integrity to do what is right

CA Hazing Law

Please be aware that the California Legislature recently enacted a new law that makes hazing a potential felony, punishable with up to one year in prison, \$5,000 in fines, and liability for injury to any persons harmed. This new liability for hazing also applies to student organizations, and not just to those who directly participated in the hazing acts. The new law defines hazing as:

[A]ny method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or student body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury to any former, current, or prospective student of any school, community college, college, university, or other educational institution in this state. Penal Code section 245.6(b)

In addition to the new law, students at a California State University campus who participate in acts of hazing as described in Title 5, section 41301 of the California Code will be subject to disciplinary action. Hazing is more broadly defined under this code.

"Hazing" includes any method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization, or any pastime of amusement engaged in with respect to such an organization which causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm, to any student or other person attending any school, community college, college, university or other educational institution in this state;

Disciplinary action at the campus level is considered independent from other court proceedings and may be instituted against a student also charged in civil or criminal courts based on the same facts that constitute the alleged violation of the Student Conduct Code. (CSU Executive Order No. 970)

