

Hazing Policy

California State University, Fullerton expects that all members of all recognized student organizations will observe and fully comply with university policy and State of California Penal Code Section 245.6 requirements on hazing. In addition, all students are expected to adhere to regulations set forth by university policies, their respective national organizations, Inter Fraternity Council, Pan-Hellenic Council, Multicultural Greek Council and National Pan Hellenic Council concerning practices commonly referred to as hazing. It is the responsibility of the officers of student organizations to be informed of all of the above mentioned regulations and to see that they are brought to the attention of the rest of the membership. Violations of these regulations should be brought to the Dean of Student's Office. During each Student Organization Officer Orientation, coordinated by the Dean of Students Office, this policy shall be reviewed, thereby educating all recognized student organizations. Additionally, at the beginning of each semester, the president of each social fraternity and sorority shall submit to the Dean of Students Office, on a form provided by that office, a statement signed by each elected officer of the organization attesting to the fact that they have read and understand the information provided by the university regarding hazing. The collecting of the officers' signatures and the submission of this form in a timely manner is the responsibility of the president of each organization. Failure to submit this form by the deadline established by the Dean of Students Office will result in suspension of university recognition and a loss of campus privileges. The State of California Penal Code Section 245.6 proscribes criminal penalties for individuals who haze.

UNIVERSITY POLICY

University policy with respect to hazing prohibits any recognized student organization from engaging collectively or individually in any of the following practices as part of any program or general activity:

1. All forms of physical activity not a part of an organized athletic contest and not specifically directed toward constructive work is prohibited.
2. The application of foreign substances to the body is prohibited.
3. Such activities as a new member scavenger hunts, new member ditches, kidnaps, and the like are prohibited.
4. Any activity that is mandatory for new members only, and is not educational in nature is prohibited.
5. Depriving students of sufficient sleep (6 hours per day minimum), decent and edible meals, or access to means of maintaining bodily cleanliness is prohibited.
6. Depriving students of "sense awareness" (sight, sound, etc.) which may cause mental and/or physical stress is prohibited.
7. Forcing, coercing or permitting students to eat or drink foreign or unusual substances such as raw meat, salt water, onions, etc., or excessive amounts of any substance is prohibited.
8. Forcing, or allowing, students to dress in any unusual or awkward fashion is prohibited.

State of California Penal Code 245.6.

(a) It shall be unlawful to engage in hazing, as defined in this section.

(b) "Hazing" means any 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. The term "hazing" does not include customary athletic events or school-sanctioned events.

(c) A violation of this section that does not result in serious bodily injury is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100), nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or both.

(d) Any person who personally engages in hazing that results in death or serious bodily injury as defined in paragraph (4) of subdivision (f) of Section 243 of the **Penal Code**, is guilty of either a misdemeanor or a felony, and shall be punished by imprisonment in county jail not exceeding one year, or by imprisonment in the state prison.

Allegations of Hazing

Allegations of violation of state law or university policies regarding hazing are handled by the Dean of Students Office. . After assuring that due process has been followed in determining the facts of a given case, and that all parties involved have access to all of these facts, and that the accused organization has an opportunity to face its accuser, the Vice President for Student Affairs shall make a determination regarding the apparent validity of the charge. If the organization indeed appears to have violated state law or university policy, the Vice President may invoke sanctions ranging from a warning to withdrawal of recognition. Decisions made by the Vice President may be appealed to the President of the university.

If it appears to the Vice President for Student Affairs that there has been a violation of Penal Code Section 245.6, the Vice President may refer the matter to University Police. Nothing in this policy is intended to prevent or prohibit a victim of hazing from filing a complaint with the police in addition to reporting the event(s) to the Dean of Students Office, as described above.