

Harding University Anti-Hazing Policy

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of morality, integrity, orderliness and personal honor. Harding University upholds state and federal laws regarding hazing and considers hazing to be in conflict with her mission and, therefore, strictly prohibited.

The term "hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that-

1. Is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and
2. Causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury including-
 - a. Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a 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;
 - f. Any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law; and
 - g. Any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law.

The term "student organization" means an organization at an institution of higher education (such as a club, society, association, varsity or junior varsity athletic team, club sports team, fraternity, sorority, 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.

No student shall 1) engage or threaten to engage in hazing, 2) permit, encourage, aid or assist any person, whether a student or not, in the commission of hazing, 3) willfully acquiesce in the commission of hazing, or 4) fail to report promptly his or her knowledge or any reasonable information within his or her knowledge of the presence and practice of hazing.

Reporting Hazing

Any student, faculty, or staff member who is made aware of, or has reasonable knowledge of, any incident of hazing shall promptly report the incident to the Office of Student Life.

Office of Student Life

501-279-4331

studentlife@harding.edu

Reports may also be made to the Department of Public Safety.

Department of Public Safety

501-279-5000

Disciplinary and Investigative Procedures

Disciplinary procedures for both individual students and organizations are outlined in the Harding University [Student Handbook](#). When it appears that an individual or organization has violated a rule of conduct, the matter will be investigated by the Office of Student Life.

If, as a result of their investigation, Student Life determines that disciplinary procedures are warranted, the student or organization will be asked to meet with the Office of Student Life. After the meeting, the student or organization will be informed in writing of the specific charge(s) being made, the penalty imposed and the right to an appeal before the Student Life Committee. Information regarding the appeal process is listed in the [Student Handbook](#).

Any or all of the following can be imposed for a given infraction:

1. Warning: a written or verbal reprimand.
2. Disciplinary Probation: probation for a specified period of time.
3. Special Action: designed to enhance the educational intent of the disciplinary process.
4. Suspension of some or all student organization activities for a specific period of time.
5. Removal of student from the student organization.

Club members are subject to additional individual disciplinary sanctions as outlined in the Harding University [Student Handbook](#).

Prevention and Awareness Programs

Harding University will provide annual hazing prevention training and awareness programming for all students, faculty, and staff and especially for:

- Members of student organizations, athletic teams, and social clubs
- New students during orientation
- Student leaders and advisors

These programs will include information about the definition of hazing, how to report hazing, and the consequences of participation in or failure to report hazing.

Hazing Transparency Website

In keeping with the [Stop Campus Hazing Act](#), Harding University will publish information involving a student club, group, or organization for which a finding of responsibility is issued related to a hazing violation.

Additionally, hazing statistics will be published in the Harding University [Annual Security Report](#), beginning in the 2026 Annual Security Report.

References

[Stop Campus Hazing Act](#)

[Annual Security Report](#)

[Student Handbook](#)

[Arkansas Anti-Hazing Law](#)