

University of Wisconsin – Whitewater Anti-Hazing Policy

Students, student organizations, athletic teams and other student groups of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater community are strictly prohibited from engaging in any type of hazing activity. Hazing is defined as "any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off-campus, that produces mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule." This includes any action that endangers the health or well-being of an individual, is personally degrading, has an adverse effect on the academic performance of the student, or which violates any federal, state or local statute or University policy. Individual or group consent to hazing activity in no way validates the activity or excludes those perpetuating it from being charged with a crime.

Individual members, organizations and groups who violate this policy are subject to University disciplinary action, as set forth in the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater Student Non-Academic Disciplinary Procedures under UW System Administrative Code Chapter 17. This document is available for review at the Office of Student Affairs, the Whitewater Student Government, or the Library Reserve Desk.

Additionally, any University student organization, group or individual student violating this policy or the Wisconsin Statute on Hazing, is subject to sanctions that may be imposed by the judicial or coordinating body of which the organization is a constituent member and/or a court of law. The Wisconsin Statute on Hazing, 948.51, is available for review at UC-Student Activities & Involvement, the Library Reference Desk, or from your state representative.

Examples of activities or situations that could meet the definition of hazing include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Keeping the date of initiation/induction a secret; requiring signatures for initiation
- "Kidnapping" of any member, leaving members stranded in a remote location to find their way home, or scavenger/treasure hunts
- Any form of forced physical activity and/or exercise, whether extreme or not (i.e. push-ups, sit-ups, or other calisthenics, runs, walks, etc.)
- Physical harassment such as paddling, hitting, beating, slapping, pushing, or striking
- Marking or branding
- Personal servitude of any kind (i.e. phone duty, cleaning, yard work, doing errands, etc.)
- Forcing or encouraging ingesting of any type of liquid or solid matter, edible or non-edible (i.e. alcohol, chewing tobacco, goldfish, raw onions, spoiled food, dirt, etc.)
- Requiring the carrying of any item around campus such as paddles, rocks, books, shields, etc.
- Requiring the wearing of unusual, embarrassing or uncomfortable clothing
- Sleep deprivation or requiring/encouraging anyone to sleep anywhere other than their own residence or bed
- Preventing personal hygiene, communication with certain groups, and/or restricting places that new members can go on campus or in the community
- Verbal abuse such as yelling or screaming or labeling with silly or embarrassing nicknames
- Any activity that interferes with a student's academic pursuits (class attendance, studying, etc.)
- Requiring or suggesting that members vandalize, destroy or steal property or commit crimes
- Requiring anything of one group of members that is not required of another

Enforcement of the UW-Whitewater Anti-Hazing Policy shall be the administrative responsibility of the Office of Student Affairs, 200 Hyer Hall, and UC-Student Activities & Involvement, UC 146. Individuals or groups seeking additional information about this policy or reporting possible violations should contact staff in UC-Student Activities & Involvement at 262-472-1471.