

Niagara University Hazing Policy

Above and beyond the New York Penal Law Niagara University interprets hazing as any act whether physical, mental, emotional or psychological, which subjects another person, voluntarily or involuntarily, to anything that may abuse, mistreat, degrade, humiliate, harass or intimidate the person, or which may in any fashion compromise the inherent dignity of the person. In addition, any requirements by a member which compels another member to participate in any activity which is against university policy or state/federal law will be defined as hazing.

Actions and activities which are prohibited include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Any type of initiation or other activity where there is an expectation of individuals joining a particular team to participate in behavior designed to humiliate, degrade or abuse them regardless of the person's willingness to participate.
- Forcing, requiring or pressuring an individual to consume alcohol or any other substance.
- Forcing, requiring or pressuring an individual to shave any part of the body, including hair on the head.
- Any requirement or pressure put on an individual to participate in any activity which is illegal, perverse, and publicly indecent, contrary to genuine morals and/or beliefs, e.g., public profanity, indecent or lewd conduct or sexual gestures in public.
- Required eating of anything an individual would refuse to eat otherwise.
- Any activity or action that creates a risk to the health, safety or property of the University or any member of its community.
- Forcing or requiring calisthenics, such as push-ups, sit-ups and runs.
- Assigning or endorsing pranks such as stealing or harassment of another organization.
- Awakening or disturbing individuals during normal sleeping hours.
- Expecting or pressuring individuals to participate in an activity in which the full membership is not willing to participate.
- Physical abuse of any kind.
- Forcing, encouraging or pressuring someone to wear in public apparel which is conspicuous and not within the norm of what is considered to be in good taste.
- Engaging in public stunts and buffoonery.
- Nudity at any time or forced reading of pornographic material.
- Paddling, beating or otherwise permitting a member to hit other members.
- Having substances such as eggs, mud, paint and honey thrown at, poured on or otherwise applied to the body of a member.
- Morally degrading/humiliating games or other activity that makes a member the object of amusement, ridicule or intimidation.
- Subjecting a member to cruel and unusual psychological conditions.