

6.021 Hazing Prohibited

(1) Each university board of trustees shall establish an anti-hazing policy as part of the university's student code of conduct or as a separate regulation, that prohibits students or other persons associated with any university student organization or group from engaging in hazing.

(2) Hazing means any action or situation, which occurs on or off university property, that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for purposes including, but not limited to, initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or the perpetuation or furtherance of a tradition or ritual of any university student organization or group whether or not officially recognized by the university. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, pressuring or coercing the student into violating state or federal law; any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance; or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the student; or any activity that would subject the student to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment, or other forced activity that could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the student. Hazing does not include customary athletic events or other similar contests or competitions or any activity or conduct that furthers a legal and legitimate objective.

(3) Each anti-hazing policy must state that the following circumstances do not constitute a defense to allegations of hazing:

(a)

(c) All penalties imposed by the university shall be in addition to any penalty imposed for a violation of section 1006.63, Florida Statutes, and any of the criminal laws of the state, or for a violation of any other regulation of the university to which the student or student organization or group may be found responsible.

(5) All students must be provided with a copy of the anti-hazing policy and each university student organization or group must include the policy as part of the organization's or group's bylaws. Each university shall make training opportunities available for students and student organizations and groups that are designed to reinforce the policy and increase awareness of the dangers of hazing.

(6) Each university shall provide an annual report to the Chancellor of the number of hazing incidents that resulted in a student or student organization or group being held responsible for a violation of the university's anti-hazing policy. The report shall be compliant with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. s. 1232g, and the federal regulations issued pursuant thereto, and shall be submitted to the Chancellor by October 1 of each year.

Authority: Section 7(d), Art. IX, Fla. Const.; Section 1006.63, Florida Statutes; History—New, 03-28-19, Amended 10-30-19.