

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

HAZING POLICY

2010-2011

The University of New England supports Maine State Law and does not condone or tolerate any acts of hazing. Any such acts, on or off University property or at University affiliates, are expressly prohibited. In accordance with the Maine Prohibition of Hazing Law, UNE will impose severe sanctions to those individuals found responsible for being in violation of the Hazing Policy. Individuals should understand that disciplinary action by the University does not offer protection from civil or criminal action or penalties.

A. Definition

Hazing is defined as any act directed toward a student, or any coercion or intimidation of a student to act or to participate in or submit to any act when:

- 1) Such act is likely or would be perceived by a reasonable person as likely to cause physical or emotional injury to any person; hazing also includes any act designed to or the result of which is to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule; or
- 2) Such act is a condition of initiation into, admission into, continued membership in, or association with any organization.
- 3) The definition(s) will be applied to the activities of all student organizations and organizations comprised of students.
- 4) Hazing applies to activities and behaviors, regardless of whether the initiators are prospective or active members, and regardless of whether the victims are prospective or active members.
- 5) Hazing applies to activities and behaviors, regardless of whether participation was voluntary or required.

B. Responsibilities

1. A person is responsible for violating the University's Hazing Policy if such person:
 - a. Knowingly participates as an actor in any student hazing; or
 - b. Is present at or otherwise has direct knowledge of any student hazing and fails to report such hazing to the VPSA or designate.
2. A group or organization is responsible of violating the Hazing Policy if it:
 - a. Knowingly permits or condones student hazing; or
 - b. Knowingly or negligently fails to take reasonable measures within the scope of its authority to prevent student hazing; or
 - c. Fails to report to the VPSA, or designate, any hazing reported to it by others or of which it otherwise has knowledge.

C. Consent

The implied or express consent of any person toward whom an act of hazing is directed will not be a defense in any action brought under this section.

D. Penalties

Violation of the Hazing Policy may result in suspension, expulsion, or other disciplinary action or, in the case of an organization or group, revocation of permission to operate on campus or the denial of other benefits.