
TITLE:	Hazing (Chapter 132U-121-035 WAC)
NUMBER:	3260
APPROVED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES:	6/11/96

WAC
132U-121-035 Hazing

WAC 132U-121-035 HAZING. (1) Whatcom Community College prohibits college-sponsored organizations, associations or living groups and their members from engaging individually or collectively in hazing activities.

(2) Hazing is defined as any method of initiation into a student organization, association or living group, or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to such an organization or living group that causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger or physical harm, or serious mental or emotional harm to any student or other person attending any institution of higher education of post-secondary institution. "Hazing" does not include customary athletic events or other similar contests or competitions.

(3) Penalties.

(i) Any organization, association or student living group that knowingly permits hazing shall:

(a) be liable for harm caused to persons or property resulting from hazing, and

(b) be denied recognition by Whatcom Community College as an official organization, association or student living group on the Whatcom Community College campus. If the organization, association or student living group is a corporation, whether for profit or nonprofit, the individual directors of the corporation may be held individually liable for damages.

(ii) The Student Conduct Code, WAC 132U-120-040 through 132U-120-250, may be applicable to hazing violations.

(iii) Members of student organizations, associations or living groups who participate in or conspire to participate in hazing activities will be subject to appropriate college disciplinary actions in accordance with the Student Conduct Code.

(iv) Other disciplinary actions for individuals of student organizations, associations or living groups participating in hazing activities may include forfeiture of any entitlement to state-funded grants, scholarships or awards for a period of time determined by the college.

(v) Hazing violations are also misdemeanors punishable under state criminal law according to RCW 9A.20.021.

(4) Conduct associated with initiation into or pastime or amusement with student groups.

(i) Conduct associated with initiation into a student organization, association or living group or any pastime or amusement engaged in, shall promote a learning community that is safe and supportive.



(ii) All student organizations, associations or living groups, or organizers of any pastime or amusement activities must submit a plan of the proposed initiation or other activities to the Director of Student Programs at least 14 calendar days prior to the scheduled initiation or activity.

(iii) Students are encouraged to work with the Director of Student Programs to create an initiation experience that treats individuals with respect and dignity. Approval shall not be granted for initiation or other activities that may result in ridicule, undue embarrassment, discrimination, sleep deprivation, verbal abuse, or personal humiliation.

(iv) Individual students and/or organizations who do not gain approval or who deviate from the approved initiation or other activity plan are subject to any sanctions available under the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code, WAC 132U-120-040 through 132U-120-250, depending upon the seriousness of the violation.

