

POLICY & PROCEDURES MEMORANDUM

TITLE:	HAZING PREVENTION
EFFECTIVE DATE:	September 9, 1997* (*LCTCS Policy Update 10/7/18; 2/22/18; Title Update 6/7/12; LCTCS Policy Update 2/14/02)
CANCELLATION:	none
CATEGORY:	Student (SA)

POLICY STATEMENT

Delgado Community College and the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Board of Supervisors are committed to providing a safe academic and social environment for all students. In accordance with [LCTCS Policy #2.003, Campus Safety and Hazing](#), and Louisiana Revised Statute 17:1801, hazing in any form is prohibited at Delgado Community College.

Definitions

Postsecondary education institution, education institution, or institution is any postsecondary education institution in this state supported wholly or in part by public funds.

Hazing means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act by a person acting alone or acting with others that is directed against another when both of the following apply:

- The person knew or should have known that such an act endangers the physical health or safety of the other person or causes severe emotional distress.
- The act was associated with pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, participating in, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization.
- Consent is not a defense.
- Hazing includes but is not limited to any of the following acts associated with pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, participating in, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization:
 - Physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, paddling, striking, branding, electric shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity.
 - Physical activity, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, or calisthenics, that subjects the other person to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the physical health or safety of the individual or causes severe emotional distress.
 - Activity involving consumption of food, liquid, or any other substance, including but not limited to an alcoholic beverage or drug, that subjects the individual to an unreasonable risk

of harm or that adversely affects the physical health or safety of the individual or causes severe emotional distress.

- Activity that induces, causes, or requires an individual to perform a duty or task that involves the commission of a crime or an act of hazing.
- For purposes of this Policy, hazing shall not include a physical activity that is normal, customary, and necessary for a person's training and participation in an athletic, physical education, military training, or similar program sanctioned by the postsecondary education institution.

Organization is a fraternity, sorority, association, corporation, order, society, corps, cooperative, club, service group, social group, band, spirit group, athletic team, or similar group whose members are primarily students at, or former students of, a postsecondary education institution, including the national or parent organization of which any of the underlying entities provided for in this definition is a sanctioned or recognized member at the time of the hazing.

Appropriate authority includes:

- Any state or local law enforcement agency.
- A 911 Public Safety Answering Point as defined in Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.
- Emergency medical personnel.
- Reckless behavior is an activity or behavior in which a reasonable person knew or reasonably should have known that the activity or behavior may result in injury to another, including but not limited to excessive consumption of alcohol, binge drinking, drag racing, consumption of any controlled dangerous substance, acts of hazing, or other similar activity.
- Serious bodily injury is bodily injury that involves unconsciousness, extreme physical pain, or protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty, death, or a substantial risk of death.

Compliance with Laws

Delgado Community College complies with applicable laws and regulations, and must be amended to reflect any changes to such laws and regulations, including but not limited to the following:

- Act 635 of the 2018 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, which creates the crime of criminal hazing, provides definitions and exceptions, and establishes exceptions and penalties;
- Act 637 of the 2018 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, which creates an obligation to offer reasonable assistance, including seeking medical assistance, to someone who has suffered serious bodily injury caused by reckless behavior, including hazing; and

- Act 640 of the 2018 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, which prohibits hazing at Louisiana's postsecondary institutions, requires Louisiana Board or Regents to adopt a uniform policy on hazing prevention, requires postsecondary institutions to adopt and expand on Louisiana Board or Regents' uniform policy in a manner consistent with the laws and Louisiana Board or Regents' policy.

Duty to Report

No student organization or individual shall employ a program of student initiation/pledge education or social events that includes hazing. It is the duty of all current or potential student organization members and any faculty or staff member has a duty to report immediately, in writing, any violation of this policy to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs for student violations and the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Human Resources for employee violations. Any violation of this policy will be investigated and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

Expectations for Violations

Any violation of this policy, including knowledge of and failure to report, may result in expulsion in the case of students and termination in the case of employees, as well as suspension of activities for a minimum of one academic year for any student organization that participates in hazing. Student violations are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the procedures set forth in the College's [Student Judicial Code](#) and [Student Organizations](#) policies. Employee violations are subject to the College's [disciplinary procedures](#).

Education, Awareness, and Prevention

Delgado Community College provides education, awareness, and prevention activities for hazing that include but are not limited to:

- (1) Awareness seminars with organization advisors and student organization members;
- (2) Awareness seminars with athletic coaching staff and student-athletes;
- (3) Participation in National Hazing Prevention Week each September;
- (4) Inclusion in Faculty/Staff Convocation activities; and
- (5) Posting of this policy on the College's website, including the [Student Organizations webpage](#), *College Catalog*, and *Student Handbook*.

Policy Reference:

Policy and Procedures Memorandum [Student Judicial Code \(Rights, Responsibilities, and Disciplinary Procedures\)](#)

Policy and Procedures Memorandum [Student Organizations](#)

Louisiana Community and Technical College System Policy [#2.003, Campus Safety and Hazing](#)

Louisiana Revised Statute 17:1801 Hazing Prohibited; Penalties

SA-1479.1

September 9, 1997*

(*LCTCS Policy Update 10/7/18; 2/21/18;

Title Update 6/7/12; LCTCS Policy Update 2/14/02)

Review Process:

Student Government Council 8/29/97

Executive Council 9/9/97

LCTCS Policy Update – Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Approval 2/22/18

LCTCS Policy Update – Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Approval 10/7/18

Distribution:

Distributed Electronically Via the College's Website