

## **Washington University in St. Louis**

### **Campus Hazing Transparency Report: December 22, 2025**

The Campus Hazing Transparency Report summarizes findings of hazing concerning any student organization established or recognized by the institution. The following information was collected with respect to hazing incidents reported at the institution, and for which there were findings. The report is updated two times per year, if necessary, to reflect additional findings of hazing.

All of the institution's statistics of reports of hazing, as well as other campus safety information, are housed in the Annual Security Report which can be found at <https://police.wustl.edu/app/uploads/2025/09/Safety-and-Security-main-doc-2025.pdf>, or a hard copy can be requested at Washington University Police Department, 6615 Shepley Drive, St. Louis, MO 63105.

A copy of the institution's Daily Crime Log, which includes 60 days of reported crimes identified by the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act, can be requested at Washington University Police Department, 6615 Shepley Drive, St. Louis, MO 63105 and includes all reported acts of hazing within the institution's Clery geography boundaries, including its patrol jurisdiction.

#### **Stop Campus Hazing Policy and Programming**

“Hazing” is defined by the University as an intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person or two or more people against a student or prospective member in connection with initiation, admission into, affiliation, or continued membership with an Organization that causes or is likely to contribute to a substantial risk of physical or psychological injury. For purposes of this policy, the term “Organization” is not restricted to recognized or established student organizations or groups. It includes any organization in which two or more members are students enrolled at WashU.

Hazing is prohibited by the university. Allegations of Hazing reported to the university will lead to immediate initiation of investigation and proceedings under the University Student Conduct Code or other university disciplinary processes, in addition to possible referral for criminal investigation. It does not matter whether these activities were mandatory or voluntarily entered into by any of the participants in question, including prospective or current members.



Violations of WashU's Hazing Policy may include, but are not limited to:

- Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing consumption of food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances
- Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing or mandating the witnessing of sexual activity or indecent exposure
- Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, state, tribal, or federal law
- Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body, or similar activity
- Any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct
- Acts of extreme physical exertion or calisthenics
- Not being allowed to eat, groom or take care of oneself
- Activities done against one's will or choice
- Sleep deprivation
- Confinement
- Exposure to the elements
- Acts of servitude
- Requirements that prohibit students from attending class or otherwise prevent students from engaging in their academic work
- Any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, state, tribal, or federal law

To report an incident of Hazing or share your concerns that Hazing may be occurring, please contact the offices below as soon as possible and provide as much detail as possible. This will allow WashU to support the safety, health, and well-being of our students.

Please note that "Campus Security Authorities," as defined by the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act, must report an alleged hazing incident by contacting the WashU Police Department or OSCCS as described below.

To report suspected Hazing:

1. **WashU Police Department:** If there is an immediate safety concern, call the WashU Police Department at 314-935-5555 or dial 911.
2. **Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards:** Contact the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS). Reports or concerns about alleged Hazing can be submitted to OSCCS or Campus Life through the [Student Conduct Incident Report form](#).



3. **Silent Witness**: For non-emergencies, individuals may also submit an anonymous report through the WashU Police Department's Silent Witness form. The Silent Witness form is not monitored and reviewed 24/7, and this form should not be used to report an emergency situation or a crime in progress. The university's ability to respond to and take further action based upon anonymous reports may be limited.

## **Hazing Investigation Procedures**

Formal Complaints asserted against students or student groups under the University's Hazing Policy or Student Conduct Code are managed by the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS), Campus Life or another Student Conduct Administrator (SCA). The processes outlined below are designed to comply with the Stop Campus Hazing Act (SCHA) and to provide a thorough and fair investigation and hearing into such Complaints.

Upon receiving a Complaint, OSCCS or Campus Life will conduct a preliminary review to determine whether the Complaint alleges conduct that constitutes a violation of the University's Hazing Policy or other violations of the University Student Conduct Code. If the SCA determines that the Complaint alleges a potential violation of the Code, a Notice of Complaint will be sent to the Respondent's University email address. This Notice will include a brief description of the factual allegations, the relevant Student Conduct Code Offenses, as well as information about the Student Conduct Code and procedures that will be followed. The SCA will schedule a meeting with the Respondent to discuss the allegations and allow the Respondent an opportunity to be heard, generally providing two (2) Business Days' notice before the meeting.

Additional information about investigative and resolution processes under the University Student Conduct Code can be found in the [Initiation of Complaint](#) and [Resolution Procedures](#).

If a Complaint alleges Hazing committed by a university staff or faculty member, OSCCS will refer it to the Office of Human Resources for further action. If a Complaint alleges Hazing committed by an individual not affiliated with the university, OSCCS may refer the matter to WashU Police or other law enforcement agencies or to other institutions or organizations that may have jurisdiction over the individuals accused.



## **Hazing Prevention and Awareness Programs**

WashU is committed to proactively preventing hazing through comprehensive research-informed education, training, and awareness initiatives and strategies intended to reach students, faculty, and staff. This includes the development of strategies to break barriers of reporting hazing incidents. The following highlights the university's ongoing prevention efforts through in-person and online training formats:

- All new undergraduate students, including transfer students and students officially visiting from another home institution, are required to complete an online hazing education and prevention module during orientation. This training covers the university's hazing policy, reporting and investigation procedures, and provides information about bystander intervention, ethical leadership, and safe, inclusive group bonding strategies. Students must achieve a score of 100% to complete the module.
- A Hazing Education module is available to the campus community on the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards website. This module covers the University's hazing policy, reporting and investigation procedures, and provides information about bystander intervention, ethical leadership, and safe, inclusive group bonding strategies. Please follow this [link](#) to enroll in the course.
- Campus Security Authorities (CSAs) receive annual training through an online module provided by the University to educate them regarding the university's obligations under the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act, including their responsibilities as a CSA. This annual training covers the university's hazing policy in addition to the Stop Campus Hazing Act definitions and obligations of CSAs.
- Additional targeted educational programming and campaigns are offered campus-wide throughout the academic year for student group leaders, athletic teams, fraternities and sororities, and other student groups.



## Hazing State Laws

### **Summary (Code of Missouri)**

1. A person commits the offense of hazing if he or she knowingly participates in or causes a willful act, occurring on or off the campus of a public or private college or university, directed against a student or a prospective member of an organization operating under the sanction of a public or private college or university, that recklessly endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student or prospective member for the purpose of initiation or admission into or continued membership in any such organization to the extent that such person is knowingly placed at probable risk of the loss of life or probable bodily or psychological harm. Acts of hazing include:
  - a. Any activity which recklessly endangers the physical health or safety of the student or prospective member, including but not limited to physical brutality, whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance, or forced smoking or chewing of tobacco products;
  - b. Any activity which recklessly endangers the mental health of the student or prospective member, including but not limited to sleep deprivation, physical confinement, or other extreme stress-inducing activity; or
  - c. Any activity that requires the student or prospective member to perform a duty or task which involves a violation of the criminal laws of this state or any political subdivision in this state.
2. Public or private colleges or universities in this state shall adopt a written policy prohibiting hazing by any organization operating under the sanction of the institution.
3. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as creating a new private cause of action against any educational institution.
4. Consent is not a defense to hazing. § 565.010 does not apply to hazing cases or to homicide cases arising out of hazing activity.
5. The offense of hazing is a class A misdemeanor, unless the act creates a substantial risk to the life of the student or prospective member, in which case it is a class D felony. Mo. Rev. Stat. § 578.365.



## Hazing Violations

Student Organization Name	Count of hazing incidents	Finding(s) and Description	Sanction(s)	Hazing incident involved abuse of alcohol or drugs	Date incident occurred	Date investigation initiated	Date investigation ended	Date student organization was provided notice of hazing violation	Location
NCAA Division III Swimming and Diving Team	1	<p>The WashU Swimming and Diving team was found to have violated the Student Conduct Code by engaging in hazing.</p> <p>The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards found that some senior swim team members planned and organized activities directed at first-year swim team members. These activities included requiring first-year swim team members to attend a mandatory team event; instructing them to collect items and meet at a location on campus; blindfolding them or directing them to close their eyes while walking/running or performing certain tasks; requiring that they engage in certain physical activities, like push-ups or</p>	<p>Disciplinary Sanctions:</p> <p>1. Probation: For the 2025-2026 academic year: No outside team activities (defined as events open to all swim team members) other than mandatory workouts, practices, and events hosted by the coaching staff without prior approval by Athletics.</p> <p>2. Senior swimmers (excluding any transfer students who joined the team this year) will be suspended from participating in the meet</p>	Yes - alcohol	08/23/2025	09/02/2025	09/19/2025	09/29/2025	Off and On Danforth Campus



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		planks; requiring them to walk/run to an off-campus apartment, where alcohol was present and required to be consumed by first-year team members and sprayed on some first-year team members.	<p>scheduled on November 1, 2025.</p> <p>Educational Remedies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All team members must complete the WashU Hazing Policy and Prevention course.</li> <li>2. All team members must participate in a facilitated hazing prevention session.</li> </ol>						

