

**HAZING IS VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA STATE LAW AND UNIVERSITY POLICY**

**PENAL CODE\***  
SECTION 245.6 (a) It shall be unlawful to engage in hazing, as defined in this section. (b) "Hazing" means any method of initiation or preinitiation into a student organization or student body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury to any former, current, or prospective student of any school, community college, college, university, or other educational institution in this state. The term "hazing" does not include customary athletic events or school-sanctioned events. (c) A violation of this section that does not result in serious bodily injury is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100), nor more than five thousand dollars (\$5000), or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year, or both. (d) Any person who personally engages in hazing that results in death or serious bodily injury as defined in paragraph (4) of subdivision (f) of Section 243 of the Penal Code, is guilty of either a misdemeanor or a felony, and shall be punished by imprisonment in county jail not exceeding one year, or by imprisonment in the state prison. (e) The person against whom the hazing is directed may commence a civil action for injury or damaged. The action may be brought against any participants in the hazing, or any organization to which the student is seeking membership whose agents, directors, trustees, managers, or officers authorized, requested, commanded, participated in, or ratified the hazing. (f) Prosecution under this section shall not prohibit prosecution under any other provision of law.

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA POLICIES APPLYING TO CAMPUS ACTIVITIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND STUDENTS**

**102.12 HAZING\***  
Participation in hazing or any method of initiation or preinitiation into a campus organization or other activity engaged in by the organization or members of the organization at any time that causes, or is likely to cause, physical injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in psychological harm to any student or other person.

\*Note: Other policies may apply depending on situational factors.

**WHERE TO GET ASSISTANCE OR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HAZING AT UCR**

R.E.A.C.H. Peer Educators  
Dean of Students Office  
260 Costo Hall  
(951) 827-5000

Golden A.R.C.H.E.S.  
Peer Health Education Program  
Campus Health Center  
(951) 827-2874  
[www.arches.ucr.edu](http://www.arches.ucr.edu)

Counseling Center  
Veitch Student Center – North Wing  
(951) 827-5531  
[www.counseling.ucr.edu](http://www.counseling.ucr.edu)

Student Life – S.O.L.A.R.  
145 Costo Hall  
(951) 827-7344  
[www.studentlife.ucr.edu](http://www.studentlife.ucr.edu)

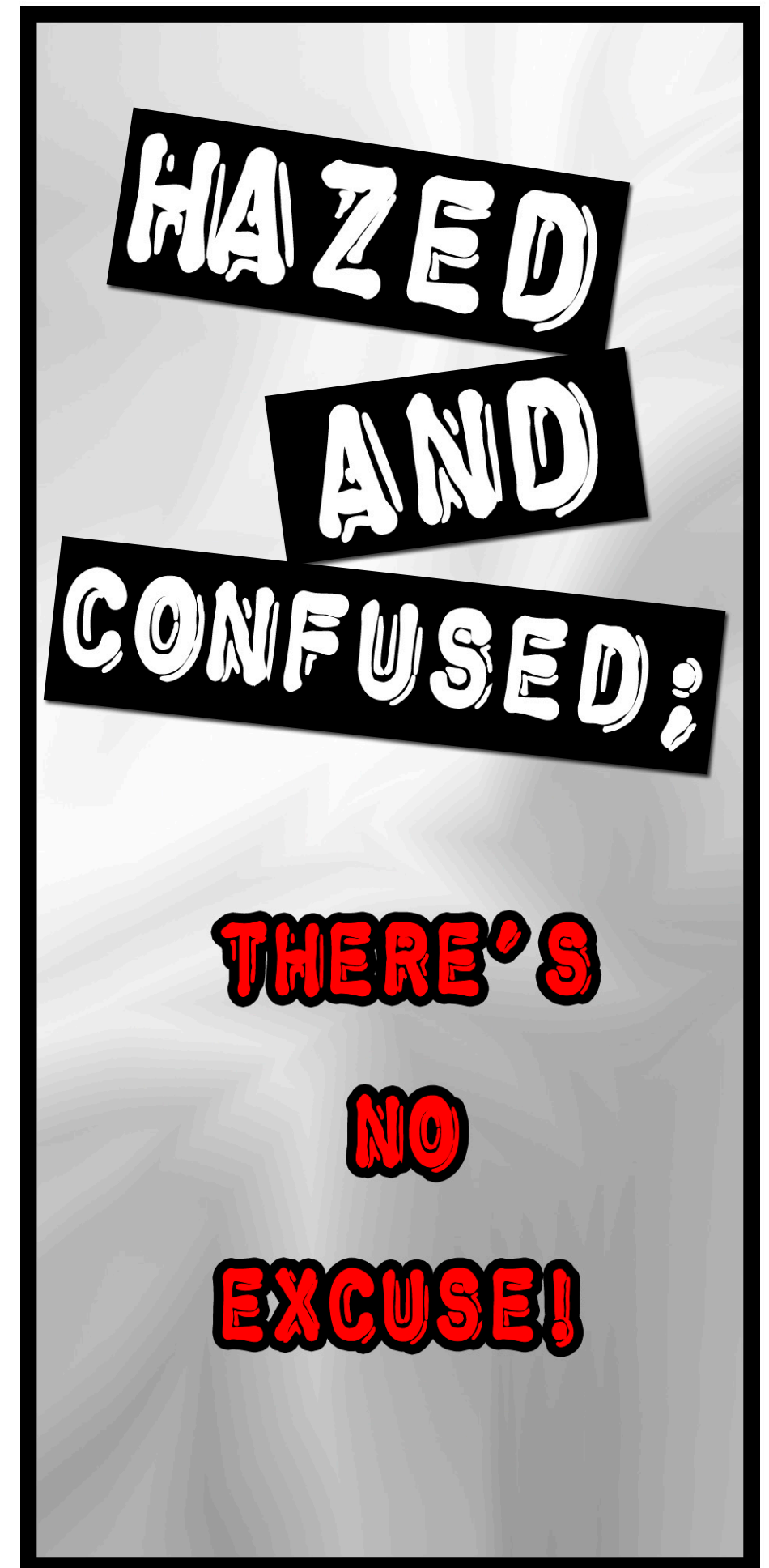
Student Judicial Affairs  
133 Costo Hall  
(951) 827-4208  
[www.conduct.ucr.edu](http://www.conduct.ucr.edu)

UCR Police Department  
3500 Canyon Crest Dr.  
(951) 827-5222  
[www.police.ucr.edu](http://www.police.ucr.edu)

**WHERE TO REPORT HAZING AT UCR**

Student Judicial Affairs (951) 827-4208  
UCR Housing-Res. Life (951) 827-4252  
UCR Police Department (951) 827-5222

University of California, Riverside  
900 University Avenue  
Riverside, CA 92521  
[www.ucr.edu](http://www.ucr.edu)



## WHAT IS HAZING?

University of California policy defines hazing as any method of initiation or pre-initiation into a campus organization or other activity engaged in by the organization or members of the organization at any time that causes, or is likely to cause, physical injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in psychological harm to any student or other person.

## EXAMPLES OF HAZING?

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Certain behaviors are considered hazing if they are expected in order to become or feel like a member of a group, and meet the other criteria in the above definition, including but not limited to:

*Forced or coerced consumption of alcohol • Forced consumption of large quantities of water • Requiring new members/rookies to perform duties not assigned to other members • Socially isolating new members/pledges • Yelling or cursing at by other members of the team or group • Line-ups and Drills/Tests on meaningless information • Sleep deprivation • Ingestion of vile substances • Branding • Simulated sex acts • Restrictions on association with others • Forced or coerced shaving of heads or other body parts • Requiring new members/pledges to refer to other members with titles (e.g. "Mr.," "Miss") while they are identified with demeaning terms • Personal servitude • Infliction of violence • Whipping, kicking, beating • Perform sex acts • Public nudity • Make prank phone calls or harass others • Wear embarrassing clothing • Deprivation/restriction of regular hygiene practices (e.g., brushing teeth, bathing/showering) • Expecting certain items to always be in one's possession • Destroy or steal property • Cheat or help others cheat on an exam • "Drop-offs" or "dumps" in unfamiliar locations • Paddling • Exposure to cold weather or extreme heat without appropriate protection • Lock-ups or being confined to small spaces • Being duct taped or some other physical restraints • Sacrificing or injuring animals • Burning skin*

## MYTHS & FACTS ABOUT HAZING

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**Myth #1:** Hazing is a problem for fraternities and sororities primarily. **Fact:** Hazing is a societal problem. Hazing incidents have been frequently documented in the military, athletic teams, marching bands, religious cults, professional schools and other types of clubs and/or organizations.

**Myth #2:** Hazing is no more than foolish pranks that sometimes go awry. **Fact:** Hazing is an act of power and control over others --- it is victimization. Hazing is pre-meditated and NOT accidental. Hazing is abusive, degrading and can be life-threatening.

**Myth #3:** As long as there's no malicious intent, a little hazing should be O.K. **Fact:** Even if there's no malicious "intent" safety may still be a factor in traditional hazing activities that are considered to be "all in good fun."

**Myth #4:** Hazing is an effective way to teach respect and develop discipline. **Fact:** First of all, respect must be EARNED--not taught. Victims of hazing rarely report having respect for those who have hazed them. Just like other forms of victimization, hazing breeds mistrust, apathy and alienation.

**Myth #5:** If someone agrees to participate in an activity, it can't be considered hazing. **Fact:** In states that have laws against hazing, consent of the victim can't be used as a defense in a civil suit. This is because even if someone agrees to participate in a potentially hazardous action it may not be true consent when considering the peer pressure and desire to belong to the group.

**Myth #6:** It's difficult to determine whether or not a certain activity is hazing--it's such a gray area sometimes. **Fact:** It's not difficult to decide if an activity is hazing if you use common sense and ask yourself the following questions:

- 1) Is alcohol involved?
  - 2) Will active/current members of the group refuse to participate with the new members and do exactly what they're being asked?
  - 3) Does the activity risk emotional or physical abuse?
  - 4) Is there risk of injury or a question of safety?
  - 5) Do you have any reservation describing the activity to your parents, to a professor or University official?
  - 6) Would you object to the activity being photographed for the school newspaper or filmed by the local TV news crew?
- \*\*If the answer to any of these questions is "yes," the activity is probably hazing.

## ALTERNATIVES TO HAZING

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1. **Foster Unity:** Work together on a community service project. Visit a ropes course to work on group cohesiveness, communication and leadership skills. Work together to plan a social or athletic event with another group.

2. **Develop Leadership Skills:** Encourage participation in campus activities outside of the organization. Encourage new members to get involved in committees and/or leadership roles. Develop a peer mentor program within your group for leadership roles. Invite school/community/business leaders into the organization to share their experiences.

3. **Instill a Sense of Membership:** Plan special events when the entire organization gets together to attend a movie, play, or cultural event.

4. **Promote Scholarship:** Take advantage of your school/college/ university academic and tutoring services. Designate study hours for members of your organization. Invite college/university or community experts to discuss test-taking skills, study methods, time management, etc.

5. **Build Awareness of Organization History:** Invite an older member to talk about the organization's early days, its founding, special organization traditions, and prominent former members.

6. **Aid Career Goals:** Use college resources for seminars on resume writing, job interview skills; various careers.

7. **Involve New Members in the Community:** Get involved with campus and community service projects. Plan fund-raisers for local charitable organizations.

8. **Improve Relations with Other Organizations:** Encourage new members to plan social or service projects with other organizations; work together to plan joint social or service activities.

# HAZED AND CONFUSED; THERE'S NO EXCUSE!