

ANTI-HAZING

Xavier University of LA established this Anti-Hazing statement and related information as a means to deter aspirants (those seeking organization membership) from being induced, threatened, coerced into participating in activities or allowing treatment or behavior that is strictly prohibited and in violation of State Law, National Organizations' or University's guidelines.

Xavier University of LA prohibits any of the following actions taken or situations created, regardless of location, intent, or consent of the participants which:

1. Endangers the physical and/or psychological health or safety of an individual
2. Creates a risk of injury
3. Causes discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule
4. Willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into, or affiliation with, or as a condition for, continued membership and affiliation in an organization.

Xavier University of LA prohibits actions or situations that:

1. Are mentally, physically, or morally degrading
2. Interfere with scholastic activities or responsibilities of a student
3. Require a person to perform a menial task of any kind
4. Are inconsistent with Greek-letter organization ritual, founding principles, or national affiliate principles.

Xavier University of LA prohibits any other activities that are in violation of the policies and rules of recognized student organizations, Xavier University of LA city, parish, state, or federal law, and/or national governing bodies/associations, conferences, or affiliates.

Xavier University of LA cannot and will not tolerate hazing activities and will pursue severe action against any student or organization found in violation of this policy, up to and including indefinite revocation of the charter for the organization and suspension or dismissal for students involved.

Louisiana State Law states: "Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person acting alone or with others that is directed against another individual, when both of the following apply:
(i) The actor knew or reasonably should have known that the act endangered the physical health or safety of the other individual or caused severe emotional distress.
(ii) The act was associated with pledging, initiation into, affiliation with, participation in, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization.

The Caleb Wilson Hazing Prevention Act, L.A. R.S. 17:1801 (2026)

Any person who commits an act of hazing shall be either fined up to one thousand dollars, imprisoned for up to six months, or both. (b) If the hazing results in the serious bodily injury or death of the victim, or the hazing involves forced or coerced alcohol consumption that results in the victim having a blood alcohol concentration of at least .30 percent by weight based on grams of alcohol per one hundred cubic centimeters of blood, any person who commits an act of hazing

shall be fined up to ten thousand dollars and imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for up to five years.” LA R.S. 14:40.8 (2018) Xavier University of LA abides by Louisiana State Law in its definition and handling of hazing.

Consent is not a defense.

Hazing includes but is not limited to any of the following acts associated with pledging, initiation, affiliation, participation, holding office, or maintaining membership in any organization::

- (iv) Physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, paddling, striking, branding, electric shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity.
- (iv) Physical activity that subjects an individual to an unreasonable risk of harm, adversely affects physical health or safety, or causes severe emotional distress including but not limited to calisthenics, confinement in a small space, exposure to the elements, and sleep deprivation.
- (iv) Activity involving the consumption of food, liquid, or any other substance, including but not limited to alcohol or drugs, that subjects the individual to an unreasonable risk of harm, adversely affects physical health or safety, or causes severe emotional distress.
- (iv) Activity that induces, causes, or requires an individual to commit a crime or engage in an act that constitutes hazing.

For purposes of this Policy, hazing shall not include A physical activity that is normal, customary, and necessary for training and participation in an athletic, physical education, military training, or similar program officially sanctioned by the University.

Organization is any group whose members are primarily students at, or former students of, a postsecondary education institution including but not limited to the following: (i) An association, (ii) An athletic team, (iii) A band, (iv) A club, (v) A cooperative, (vi) A corporation, (vii) A corps, (viii) A fraternity, (ix) An order, (x) A service group, (xi) A social group, (xii) A spirit group, (xiii) A society, (xiv) A sorority, (xv) Any similar group. This includes any national, regional, or parent organization of which an entity listed that is a sanctioned, recognized, or affiliated member at the time an incident of hazing occurs.

Pledging is any action or activity related to becoming a member of an organization, including recruitment, rushing, and initiation-related activities.

Appropriate authority includes:

- (iii) Any state or local law enforcement agency.
- (iii) A 911 Public Safety Answering Point as defined in Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.
- (iii) 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.

Xavier University of LA defines hazing as any act, whether physical, mental, emotional or psychological, which subjects another person, voluntarily or involuntarily, to anything that may abuse, mistreat, degrade, humiliate, harass, or intimidate an individual, or which may in any fashion compromise an individual's inherent dignity as a person for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in, an organization whether occurring on or off campus.

In addition, any requirements by a group, member, or prospective member that compels another group, member, or prospective member to participate in any activity that is against University policy or state or federal law for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in an organization whether occurring on or off campus shall be defined as hazing.

Such action is considered hazing, whether it occurs on or off campus. Actions and activities that are explicitly prohibited include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Forcing, requiring, or encouraging an individual to drink alcohol or any other substance.
2. Calisthenics such as push-ups, sit-ups, and runs.
3. Throwing anything at an individual.
4. Forcing, requiring, encouraging, or participating in theft of any property under any circumstances
5. Assigning or endorsing "pranks", such as harassing another organization, panty raids, or setting off fireworks or other incendiary devices.
6. Defacing trees, grounds or buildings on or off University property.
7. Awakening or disturbing individuals during normal sleeping hours.
8. Engaging in an activity that compels an individual or group to remain at a certain place or transporting anyone anywhere without their knowledgeable consent (road trips, kidnaps, etc.).
9. Conducting hunts or quests.
10. Expecting participation in an activity in which the full membership is not willing to participate.
11. Required eating of anything an individual would otherwise refuse to eat.
12. Requesting, requiring, or having a person feel obligated to be branded or tattooed.
13. Causing excessive fatigue through physical and/or psychological abuse.
14. Paddling or caning of any nature.
15. Physical abuse of any kind.
16. Interrogations conducted in a psychologically damaging manner.
17. Forcing, requiring, or encouraging someone to wear, in public, apparel that is conspicuous and not within the norm of what is considered to be in good taste.
18. Calling an individual demeaning names.

19. Any form of audible harassment.
20. Not permitting a person to talk for an extended period of time.
21. Engaging in public stunts and buffoonery.
22. Nudity at any time or forced reading or viewing of pornographic material.
23. Acts of servitude.
24. Walking the line.

There are no exceptions to these requirements.

It is the right of every student on this campus to be free from the humiliation and danger of hazing. Hazing by any individual or organization shall be viewed as incongruent with the mission and values of the university. Each student and organization is responsible for the designing of programs that recognize the moral, spiritual, and intellectual qualities of every individual in pursuit of a more just and humane society.

For more information, please see the full Louisiana Anti-Hazing Law:
<https://stophazing.org/policy/state-laws/louisiana/>