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TEXAS  
CHRISTIAN  
UNIVERSITY

NEW MEMBER EDUCATOR HANDBOOK



StudentAffairs  
Fraternity and Sorority Life

**TCU**

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# TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY HAZING POLICY

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## *TCU Code of Student Conduct Section 3.2.2 Hazing*

Intentional, knowing, or reckless act occurring on or off campus, by one person alone or in conjunction with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, developing group cohesion, training, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are, or include, students at Texas Christian University. A person commits an offense if he/she engages in hazing; solicits, encourages, directs, aids or attempts to aid another engaging in hazing; intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly permits hazing to occur; has first-hand knowledge of planning of a specific hazing event or has first-hand knowledge that a specific hazing event has occurred and fails to report that knowledge in writing to appropriate university officials.

Specific examples include, but are not limited to:

- a. physical brutality such as paddling, whipping, beating, striking, branding, electrical shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activities;
- b. physical activities that put students at risk such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small or darkened space, and calisthenics;
- c. forced consumption of a substance such as food, liquid, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or other substances that may affect the student's mental or physical health;
- d. activities that intimidate or threaten a student with ostracism;
- e. activities that subject a student to extreme mental stress, shame, or humiliation;
- f. activities that affect the mental health or dignity of the student including, but not limited to, compelling a student to: perform acts of personal servitude, participate in treasure hunts, road trips, scavenger hunts;
- g. activities that jeopardize students' ability to fulfill academic requirements by requiring such things as late work sessions, deprive students of ample study time, or prevent class or study session attendance;
- h. activities that induce, cause, or require a student to perform an act violating the Texas Penal Code or the Code of Student Conduct.

## TEXAS STATE HAZING LAW

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“Hazing” means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization. The term includes:

- (A) any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity;
- (B) any type of physical activity, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, calisthenics, or other activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student;
- (C) any activity involving consumption of a food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug, or other substance that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student;
- (D) any activity that intimidates or threatens the student with ostracism, that subjects the student to extreme mental stress, shame, or humiliation, that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the student or discourages the student from entering or remaining registered in an educational institution, or that may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or the institution rather than submit to acts described in this subdivision; and
- (E) any activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task that involves a violation of the Penal Code.

*Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 260, Sec. 1, eff. May 30, 1995.*

### **Sec. 37.152. PERSONAL HAZING OFFENSE.**

- (a) A person commits an offense if the person:
  - (1) engages in hazing;
  - (2) solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing;
  - (3) recklessly permits hazing to occur; or
  - (4) has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student in an educational institution, or has firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report that knowledge in writing to the dean of students or other appropriate official of the institution.
- (b) The offense of failing to report is a Class B misdemeanor.

- (c) Any other offense under this section that does not cause serious bodily injury to another is a Class B misdemeanor.
- (d) Any other offense under this section that causes serious bodily injury to another is a Class A misdemeanor.
- (e) Any other offense under this section that causes the death of another is a state jail felony.
- (f) Except if an offense causes the death of a student, in sentencing a person convicted of an offense under this section, the court may require the person to perform community service, subject to the same conditions imposed on a person placed on community supervision under Section 11, Article 42.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, for an appropriate period of time in lieu of confinement in county jail or in lieu of a part of the time the person is sentenced to confinement in county jail.

*Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 260, Sec. 1, eff. May 30, 1995.*

#### **Sec. 37.153. ORGANIZATION HAZING OFFENSE.**

- (a) An organization commits an offense if the organization condones or encourages hazing or if an officer or any combination of members, pledges, or alumni of the organization commits or assists in the commission of hazing.
- (b) An offense under this section is a misdemeanor punishable by:
  - (1) a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$10,000; or
  - (2) if the court finds that the offense caused personal injury, property damage, or other loss, a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than double the amount lost or expenses incurred because of the injury, damage, or loss.

*Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 260, Sec. 1, eff. May 30, 1995.*

Sec. 37.154. CONSENT NOT A DEFENSE. It is not a defense to prosecution of an offense under this subchapter that the person against whom the hazing was directed consented to or acquiesced in the hazing activity.

*Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 260, Sec. 1, eff. May 30, 1995.*

## EXAMPLES OF HAZING

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The following are examples of hazing in Greek-letter organizations. It is impossible to list all hazing activities, so this list is not intended to be all inclusive. Each activity can be measured against the definition for each category.

**SUBTLE HAZING:** Actions that are against accepted sorority or fraternity standards of conduct, behavior and good tastes. An activity, action or attitude directed toward a new member which ridicules, humiliates or embarrasses (whether intended or not and generally judged by an outside party).

### **EXAMPLES:**

- Any violation of Ritual instructions, procedures or statutes
- Never doing anything with the new members (ignoring them as though they are not worthy)
- Calling new members any demeaning name (pledge, scum, maggot, loser, bitch, etc.)
- Requiring new members to call members Mr., Miss, Brother, Sister, etc.
- Any form of demerits or deprivation of privileges for standards above those of initiated members
- Scavenger hunts, whether or not such hunts promote theft, vandalism, destruction of property, or humiliating public acts for meaningless objects or for items that place the member in any harm (i.e. driving long distances to get pictures or visit other chapters, stealing, breaking and entering)
- Phone duty or house duties, if only assigned to new members (new members cannot have kitchen patrol or dish duty if active members do not – tasks must be equally separated)
- Requiring new members to carry anything at all times (i.e. backpack with specific items, a paddle, a “pledge book” for signatures, etc.)
- Keeping information from the new members prior to initiation (date of initiation, time required each day for fraternity duties, etc.) or deception prior to the ritual designed to convince a new member that he or she will not be initiated
- Memorization of stories, poems, or information not directly related to your chapter (particularly when profanity is included)
- New members expected to do anything exclusively for the entertainment of the initiated members or that all of the initiated members do not do with them
- Black books, name lists, paddles, etc. on which signatures must be obtained. If these are solely for the purpose of getting to know each other and for no other purpose, and as long as the time and the place set for getting signatures are reasonable, this activity is not objectionable
- New versus initiated members in athletic contests that are purposefully unfair and do not promote friendly competition, or instead of teams composed from both groups

**HARASSMENT HAZING:** Anything that causes mental anguish or physical discomfort to the new member. Any activity or activity directed toward a new member or activity which confuses, frustrates, or causes undue stress, requires an unreasonable or inordinate amount of the individual's time, or in any manner impairs the individual's academic efforts.

**EXAMPLES:**

- Preventing a new or initiated member from attending class or engaging them with lengthy work sessions that do not allow adequate time for academic work and studies
- Listing of new member's faults or sins, whether publicly or privately (i.e. circling fat, confessionals, etc.)
- Putting new members in a room that is uncomfortable (noise, temperature, too small) at any time (including during pre-initiation activities or between portions of the ritual)
- Extremely loud music or many repetitions of the same music played at any time including during pre-initiation week or between portions of the ritual)
- Conducting any type of activity to falsely create respect and trust through trickery (i.e. while blind folded eating goldfish/peaches, light bulb glass/chips, reaching into a toilet with bananas, trust falls, etc.)
- Verbal abuse (yelling at, taunting, getting "in their face," etc.)
- Any form of questioning under pressure or in an uncomfortable position (alphabet to a burning match, firing line/line up, grilling individuals or groups, having meaningless consequences for incorrect answers, etc.)
- Requiring new members to wear unusual, conspicuous, embarrassing, or uncomfortable clothing, costumes, or uniforms or to carry objects designed to make the new or initiated member look foolish
- Nudity at any time; causing a new or initiated member to be indecently exposed or embarrassed
- Requiring only new members to enter by back/side door/window or go up back/side staircase
- Stunt or skit nights/events with demeaning and/or crude skits and/or poems
- Requiring new members to perform ridiculous work assignments or personal service to actives such as carrying books, running errands, performing maid duties, late night food runs, etc.
- Silence periods for new members (i.e. forbidding them to communicate or visit with family, friends, or others outside the organization for any length of time)
- Preventing a new member from practicing personal hygiene (i.e. wear same clothes for a week, not wearing makeup, not wearing contact lenses, etc.)

**VIOLENT HAZING:** Anything that causes physical and/or emotional harm.

**EXAMPLES:**

- Forced consumption or ingestion of any substance (i.e. alcohol, food, non food substances, etc.)
- Sexual violation or unwarranted touching of the body
- Not being allowed to eat for any reason

- Throwing or squirting anything at or on a new or initiated member (i.e. whipped cream, water, paint, etc)
- Tests of courage, bravery, stamina
- Pushing, shoving or tackling new members
- Physical or mental shocks, regardless of degree or nature (i.e. hot or cold (ice) baths
- Creation of excessive fatigue
- Any form of forced physical activities and exercise, whether extreme or not (e.g., push-ups, sit-ups or other calisthenics, runs, walks, etc.; whether on a regular surface such as land or a floor, or in some substance such as mud, snow, etc.)
- Sleep deprivation - waking up new members repeatedly during the night or all-night work or study sessions
- Uncomfortable or inconvenient sleeping arrangements (i.e. not being allowed to sleep in own room , sleeping outdoors, in house lock-ins)
- Forced road trips off campus, kidnaps of new or initiated members. This prohibition is not intended to abolish trips to other chapters, fraternity headquarters, and the like. It is meant to abolish situations in which new or initiated members are left stranded in the middle of nowhere without any money, and any other similar activity
- New member-initiated member games designed to physically harm members of the new member class
- Assault including paddling, beating, striking, or hitting
- Burning, branding, tattooing or marking in any other way of a new or initiated member
- Forcing an individual to participate in any activity or become involved in any situation that is in violation of federal, state or local laws; contrary to the person's genuine moral or religious beliefs; or contrary to the rules and regulations of the educational institution or the national fraternity



## NEW MEMBER EDUCATION & INTAKE GUIDELINES

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1. **Training for New Member Educators** – Each chapter wishing to conduct new member education/orientation or intake must send at least one representative who is involved with the program to attend New Member Educator Training through the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. It is suggested that if there are multiple members involved, they all attend.
2. **Training for Chapter Members** - The New Member Educator must host a meeting with chapter members each semester, prior to the start of the new member education period, to review the rules, regulations and policies regarding new member education/intake and hazing. Each member then must sign the Hazing Prevention Agreement and that must be submitted to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life before the education period can begin.
3. **University Recess** - No new member program may take place during university breaks
4. **Time of Activities** - New members may not participate in fraternity/sorority related activities before 8:00 am or after 12:00 midnight. New members must be allowed at least eight continuous, uninterrupted hours of personal time each night during their education/orientation program.
5. **Timeline Submission** - Each chapter wishing to conduct new member programming or intake must submit a timeline of all activities and events that will occur during the New Member Education program/orientation.
6. **Program Submission** – Each chapter wishing to conduct new member programming or intake must submit a copy of the program/handbook/activity details that will occur during the New Member education program/orientation. If a national program is mandated by the organization, the chapter must follow this precisely. Once a national program is on file in the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, the chapter may simply update the timeline each semester unless the national program is changed.
7. **Advisor Involvement** – Chapters must have an advisor present at all ceremonies including Pinning, Big/Little Night, and Initiation.
8. **Academic Requirements** – Each student wishing to join a Texas Christian University recognized fraternity or sorority must possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and 12 Texas Christian University academic credits. Some National Organizations require a higher minimum GPA, which the individual chapters are required to enforce. This information may be released to the undergraduate chapter president and academic chair person, alumni advisor(s), and the national/international headquarters.
9. **Off Campus Events** - Chapters are not authorized to host new member events at any off campus location. In the case that a chapter event is being held off campus and new members are invited to attend (i.e. chapter retreat, formal dance at a 3rd party vendor, service project,

etc.), the chapter must have the attendance of new members at the event approved by the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

10. **Compliance with National rules and regulations** - All chapters are required to act in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth by their National Organizations, the respective National Governing Umbrella Organizations (i.e. North American Interfraternity Conference, National Panhellenic Conference, National Pan-Hellenic Council, National Association of Latin Fraternal Organizations, etc.), and the policies and guidelines set forth by the Fraternal Information and Programming Group.

# STATEMENT OF FRATERNAL VALUES AND ETHICS

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## *NORTH-AMERICAN INTERFRATERNITY CONFERENCE*

In an effort to lessen the disparity between fraternity ideals and individual behavior and to personalize these ideals in the daily undergraduate experience, the following Basic Expectations of fraternity membership have been established:

- I. I will know and understand the ideals expressed in my fraternity ritual and will strive to incorporate them in my daily life.
- II. I will strive for academic achievement and practice academic integrity.
- III. I will respect the dignity of all persons; therefore, I will not physically, mentally, psychologically or sexually abuse or haze any human being.
- IV. I will protect the health and safety of all human beings.
- V. I will respect my property and the property of others; therefore, I will neither abuse nor tolerate the abuse of property.
- VI. I will meet my financial obligations in a timely manner.
- VII. I will neither use nor support the use of illegal drugs; I will neither misuse nor support the misuse of alcohol.
- VIII. I acknowledge that a clean and attractive environment is essential to both physical and mental health; therefore, I will do all in my power to see that the chapter property is properly cleaned and maintained.
- IX. I will challenge my members to abide by these fraternal expectations and confront those who violate them.

## HOW TO CHANGE FRATERNITY EDUCATION

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Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. So is hazing. What you may consider to be a perfectly harmless way of making your new members learn their lessons in education, may, in the view of others, be an act of violence that can be criminal. Hazing is a felony in more than 38 states. In addition, no college administration or fraternity condones nor accepts hazing as a normal part of fraternity education.

The biggest danger in hazing is that it gets out of hand. What begins as an innocent prank can lead to disaster. You are familiar with the apocryphal story of the pledge who was tied to the railroad track, after the chapter carefully checked the timetable for that particular route - only to discover to their horror that trains do run late.

The role of the undergraduate chapter is to see that the education process is both enjoyable and rewarding, not only for the new members, but also for the active members. This calls for a precise agenda for membership education, including a list of activities and dates and times. New and old members can participate in any activity, and by being knowledgeable, get more out of activities and the educational experience.

### WHERE HAZING BEGINS

Answer these questions about each activity in your new member education program. If there is one question that has a negative answer, then you know that this activity should be eliminated.

- Yes  No    Is this activity an educational experience?
- Yes  No    Does this activity promote and conform to the ideal and values of the fraternity?
- Yes  No    Will this activity increase the new members' respect for the fraternity and the members of the chapter?
- Yes  No    Is this an activity that new and initiated members participate in together?
- Yes  No    Would you be willing to allow parents to witness this activity? A judge? The Chancellor?
- Yes  No    Does the activity have value in and of itself?
- Yes  No    Would you be able to defend it in a court of law?
- Yes  No    Does the activity meet both the spirit and letter of the standards prohibiting hazing?

### RESISTANCE TO CHANGE

There always is resistance to change. No matter how imminent the danger or how great the risk, some are always opposed to change. With the fraternity education process it is no different. People will still ask questions and make statements such as:

- "We've never had any problems or gotten in trouble."

- "What is this fraternity going to be like?"
- "The International (or National) Office is doing this to cover themselves."
- "This is not the same fraternity that I joined."
- "What's the point of being in a fraternity?"
- "They're just doing what I did, and I liked it."
- "It is a bonding experience."
- "It is necessary to be a good brother/sister and to understand respect for the brotherhood/sisterhood."

These questions and statements all miss the point of hazing and of fraternity education. Having someone carry a rock or a brick does not make one respect the fraternity. Having a person wear a dunce cap to class does not inspire honor for the fraternity.

## WHAT NEW MEMBERS EXPECT FROM THEIR EDUCATION

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New members desire many things from the fraternity. They expect these things when they become full members, and they expect them during their education period.

They want:

- To make friends
- To have a positive experience with their chapter
- To learn about the organization
- To feel wanted and needed
- To be informed as to what the chapter expects from them
- To join an organization, not a disorganization
- To be respected as individuals and members
- To be helped in adjusting to campus life, college classes, and chapter responsibilities
- To have fair treatment and not be subservient to initiated members
- To do only the work that initiated members do
- To respect older members
- To have initiation requirements, but not to have to earn active status through personal favors, competition or juvenile activities
- To have lots of fun. After all, what did everyone tell them during rush?

If the chapter offers these things, it has a successful program; and there are many activities that lead to such a program. Remember, if you have any doubt whether something is hazing or not, don't do it. Find an alternative!

## ALTERNATIVES TO HAZING

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Sometimes, organizations that haze new members are confused about how to change these practices. There are many creative ways to change from a hazing to a non-hazing organization. The following are some specific examples of ways to eliminate hazing and make membership a challenging but positive experience.

When organizations are challenged to eliminate hazing practices, some members are often resistant to this change. In many cases, those who are most vocal against eliminating hazing are those who are bitter and angry about the hazing that they themselves endured (but don't admit this publicly) and expect that others should be abused in order to gain "true" membership in the group. You will also find that some of these folks are likely to be bullies of the group—people who enjoy a "power trip" at the expense of someone else.

Of course, if you try to eliminate hazing in your organization, you will likely encounter many elaborate reasons for why this will be devastating for your group. While there will be some staunch supporters of the status quo, there will be many who can be convinced of the negative effects and potential risks of hazing. Believers in the supposed "benefits" of hazing may be more likely to change their opinion if they can envision some alternatives. The supposed "benefits" of hazing follow in bold with non-hazing alternatives to accomplish the same goal listed alongside.

1. **FOSTER UNITY:** Have the members of your group/organization work together on a community service project. Visit a ropes course to work on group cohesiveness, communication and leadership skills. In fraternities and sororities with chapter houses, the group might work together on a chapter room improvement project. Another option for fostering unity without hazing is for the members to work together to plan a social or athletic event with another group.
2. **DEVELOP PROBLEM-SOLVING ABILITIES:** Have new members discuss chapter weaknesses such as poor recruitment, apathy, and poor scholarship, and plan solutions that the active chapter might adopt.
3. **DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS:** Encourage participation in school/campus activities outside of the organization. Encourage new members to get involved in organizational 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.
4. **INSTILL A SENSE OF MEMBERSHIP:** Plan special events when the entire chapter gets together to attend a movie, or play. Plan a "membership circle" when actives and new members

participate in a candlelight service in which each person has a chance to express what membership means to them.

5. **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.
6. **BUILD AWARENESS OF CHAPTER HISTORY:** Invite an older member to talk about the chapter's early days, its founding, special chapter traditions, and prominent former members.
7. **BUILD KNOWLEDGE OF THE GREEK COMMUNITY:** Invite leaders of IFC, Panhellenic, Pan-Hellenic, and/or Advisers to speak on Greek governance including their goals and expectations of the Greek system.
8. **AID CAREER GOALS:** Use college resources for seminars on resume writing, job interview skills; various careers.
9. **INVOLVE NEW MEMBERS IN THE COMMUNITY:** Get involved with campus and community service projects. Plan fund-raisers for local charitable organizations.
10. **IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH OTHER GREEKS:** Encourage new members to plan social or service projects with other new member classes; work together to plan joint social or service activities.

# PRODUCTIVE NEW MEMBER EDUCATION

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## **WHEN DEVELOPING A NEW MEMBER EDUCATION PROGRAM**

- Make the new member program as consistent as possible from semester to semester. Don't leave room for gross interpretation.
- Have a clear, written mission statement for your new member education program and for the Big/Little Brother/Sister Program.
- Have all members involved in the process of new member education.
- Don't over program or monopolize a new member's time.
- Don't expect or require things from a new member that you don't expect from a member (e.g. study hours, wearing a pledge pin when members aren't wearing their membership badges/pins, daily/nightly meetings, early morning meetings, etc.)
- Make fraternal values and principles the basis for the new member program.
- Make the academic achievement and support of new members a priority and a component of the new member education program.
- Include the concept of lifetime membership in the new member education program. Stress that the fraternity/sorority experience doesn't end your junior year and shouldn't end upon graduation. Discuss the opportunities for lifetime involvement: advising undergraduate chapters, volunteering with the (inter)national organization, alumni chapter involvement, financial commitment of paying inter/national alumni dues, making financial donations to the organization's Educational Foundation, etc.
- If in doubt about the appropriateness of a new member activity, ask the Director of Greek Life. You will never get "in trouble" for asking whether something could be construed as hazing!

## **BEFORE NEW MEMBER EDUCATION**

- Review your new member program at the beginning of each semester with the help of the Director of Fraternity/Sorority Life, your advisor, or inter/national organization to help you review
- Set high membership eligibility standards and make recruitment the process of "earning your letters" through a potential new member's character, academic performance, leadership, and potential. New member education should be the process learning to integrate their existing skills and talents into the organization and identifying areas they would like to develop through the fraternity/sorority experience.
- Provide a written copy of your new member program and expectations to potential new members during recruitment and again to new members before new member education begins.
- Relay chapter expectations to alumni. Don't be afraid to set boundaries with alumni and hold them accountable as you would a member.



- Involve families in the new member education process. Send copies of your new member program and a letter of introduction, including the chapter's stance on hazing, to the families of new members. Develop an event where families can visit the chapter during new member education.
- Communicate in writing what new members should do if they are overwhelmed or feel pressure to do something they normally would not.

### **DURING NEW MEMBER EDUCATION**

- Take any concerns expressed by new members seriously. If you don't know how to handle a situation, ask the Director of Fraternity/Sorority Life, your advisor or inter/national organization.
- Review ritual with new members before initiation to alleviate any fears they may have.
- Host a brotherhood/sisterhood event for members before each initiation where you discuss ritual procedures and its message (your organization's values and expectations).

### **AFTER NEW MEMBER EDUCATION**

- Review the ritual process, message and your organizational values with new members during a post-initiation retreat.
- Ask new members to evaluate the new member program after initiation and provide feedback for ways to improve the experience for the next group of new members.
- Review the new member program after each initiation with *all* members to determine how the experience can be improved for both members and new members. If issues or problems arose, ask the Director of Fraternity/Sorority Life, advisor or inter/national organization for help in addressing these issues during the next new member education program.
- Don't fall into the trap of treating new initiates as second-class citizens. Eliminate the use of the term "rookie" (if used). Don't expect or require things of new initiates that you wouldn't expect of all members.

# 100 WAYS TO CREATE GOOD MEMBERS WITHOUT HAZING

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*Compiled by Allison Swick-Duttine  
Plattsburgh State University of New York*

1. Attend and/or send students to the National Hazing Symposium
2. Participate in a ropes course
3. Participate in teambuilding activities (can be facilitated by new member educator or campus professional – there are hundreds of these activities that you could use)
4. Participate in and/or plan a community service project
5. Plan a new member surprise party hosted by active members
6. Have a resume writing workshop presented by Career Services
7. Attend an educational speaker of new members choice and discuss as a chapter
8. Leadership book-of-the-month/semester club facilitated by new members
9. Invite faculty advisor to lunch with new members
10. Have a discussion about the relevance of the chapters creed today
11. Host or attend a study skills workshop presented by the learning center
12. Invite an alumni to talk about how his/her fraternal organization gave skills to succeed
13. Make arts and crafts for a cause (paint pumpkins, make get well cards, picture frames, etc.)
14. Participate in a recruitment workshop to help new members understand their role in helping the chapter grow and sustain
15. Invite council officers to speak about community governance
16. Invite Greek Life Staff members to speak about lifetime membership
17. Dinner and a movie
18. Shadow an executive board officer and assist in planning of a program/event
19. Create a vision and goals for the organization
20. Plan a fundraiser to pay for initiation fees
21. Include new members in chapter meetings
22. Include new members in regularly scheduled chapter activities
23. Discuss fraternal values and how they apply (or don't apply)
24. Plan and present a speaker on a health/wellness topic
25. Require active membership in at least one organization outside the group
26. Evaluate the process during and after new member education
27. Host a family weekend activity for parents of new and active members
28. Have a consultant or inter/national visitor talk about national programs
29. Discuss what "national" does for "us" with dues money
30. Attend a Panhellenic, Interfraternity, or Intercultural Greek Council meeting
31. Participate in all-fraternity/sorority events (intramurals, Greek week, service projects, etc.)
32. Review parliamentary procedure and its purpose
33. Ask leadership experts to discuss issues such as motivation and group dynamics
34. Have new members take the Meyers-Briggs Personality Type Inventory and discuss

35. Ask a faculty member discuss ethical decision making
36. Ask a faculty member to facilitate a conversation on diversity in fraternities and sororities
37. Ask campus health educator to do a presentation on eating disorders or depression, etc.
38. Ask public safety officers to discuss the prevention of violence against women
39. Ask campus fraternity/sorority advisors to describe what the college offers for members
40. Plan a philanthropy project for a local charity
41. Have a contest for who can recruit the most new members to join and reward the winner with a fully-paid membership badge or initiation fee
42. Members and new members make “secret sisters/brothers” gifts for each other
43. Discuss risk management and liability with the university counsel
44. Brainstorm ways to recruit new members to present to chapter
45. Have an all-campus or all-fraternity/sorority community “Meet Our New Members” picnic
46. Have new members play on the chapter intramural team
47. Plant a new member class tree
48. Sponsor a “big/little” academic challenge with free textbooks to the winner
49. Have a candlelight/pass the gavel ceremony about what fraternity means to me
50. Have a senior student affairs administrator talk about institutional fraternity/sorority history
51. Brainstorm ways to improve scholarship (other than study hours)
52. Attend a theatrical production or athletic event of the new members choosing
53. Ask the library to give a lecture on effective research methods
54. Attend a program or event another organization is sponsoring
55. Have a discussion about membership standards and expectations
56. Have a chapter goal-setting retreat
57. Ask new members to accompany members to regional leadership conferences
58. Attend the campus leadership conference or workshops
59. Deconstruct past hazing activity to determine intent and brainstorm alternatives
60. Write a “letter to the founders” to thank them for the opportunity (not to be shared)
61. Attend an executive board meeting
62. Have new members help the executive board develop an icebreaker for each meeting
63. Develop a leadership “wish list” or time line of chapter and campus activities
64. Invite the fraternity/sorority awards or standards program chair to speak about the program
65. Invite the Learning Center or Career Services Center to explain their services
66. Develop a faculty advisor appreciation gesture
67. Have active and new members collaborate on a house improvement project
68. Develop an event with a non-Greek organization that requires new members to ask the finance board for additional allocations or to apply for a campus grant
69. Have new members develop a list of ways to end chapter motivation issues
70. Ask the Mayor to discuss city issues and how the group can help
71. Ask the Elections Commissioner to discuss politics in the city/county/nation
72. Require members to register to vote and give an incentive to those who do
73. Require members below a 3.0 to attend a study skills program

74. Develop a program that allows you to call them “new members” rather than “pledges”
75. Discuss the founding of the group and how the organization has evolved over time while maintaining the vision. If it hasn’t, how can the group return to its roots?
76. Attend diversity programming offered by university and follow up with a reflection exercise to begin a dialogue on this important topic
77. Review the history of hazing, the evolution of new member education and the direction recruitment is headed
78. Discuss the “old way” of pledging versus the “new way” with a panel of alumni, administrators and council officers
79. Develop or co-sponsor a program or event with another sorority if you’re a women’s groups or a fraternity, if a men’s group
80. Have a professional discuss the “Millennial Generation” and how groups can better recruit based on this research
81. Offer a discount or reimbursement of part of the initiation fee if a new member completes Alternative Spring Break
82. Give highest new member GPA recipient a plaque or \$25 gift certificate to nice restaurant
83. New member who develops best recruitment plan (or scholarship plan) gets a free \_\_\_\_\_
84. Ask Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute (UIFI) graduates to speak about lessons learned and opportunities to attend
85. Do a chapter fundraiser to send a new member to the North-American Interfraternity Conference’s Futures Quest Program or UIFI
86. Have a discussion about why new members wear pins and not members
87. Attend New Member Workshop with the campus fraternity/sorority advisor
88. Check a book out of the fraternity/sorority life office resource library to read and have a chapter discussion about
89. Allow new members time for themselves to do and be what they want
90. Have a weekly forum for the new members to discuss their feelings about college, Greek life, joining your organization, etc.
91. Develop a program with another group to benefit the entire fraternity/sorority community.
92. Invite a fitness specialist or nutritionist to discuss dietary fads – pros and cons.
93. Ask each member to list the offices/chairs they would be interested in. Have them list five things they would do differently about each. Compile results without names attached and have a constructive conversation.
94. Develop one memento of the new member class to present to the campus.
95. Eliminate the creation of new member class “paddles”, no matter their use. They’re symbolic of hazing. Come up with an alternative.
96. Ask a professor to do a workshop on etiquette.
97. Have lunch together once a week in a dining hall with the entire sorority/fraternity.
98. Invite faculty advisor to new member meetings.
99. Visit the (inter)national organization’s headquarters.
100. Question each activity and evaluate the program each semester with the help of advisors

# ANTI-HAZING HOTLINE

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## College Hazing Has A New Enemy

*Indianapolis, IN (August 28, 2007)* – As part of the ongoing attempt to end hazing on college campuses and particularly within Greek organizations, 21 international fraternities and sororities have joined forces in a coalition to establish the Greek Anti-Hazing Hotline. The toll-free number is 1-888-NOT-HAZE (1-888-668-4293). The line is available to those who think they, or students they know, have been or may become victims of hazing. Callers may remain anonymous or provide personal information so their concerns can be responded to directly.

The Anti-Hazing Hotline connects to a dedicated voice mailbox at the Cincinnati law firm of Manley Burke, the publisher of *Fraternal Law*, a well-known law journal that chronicles legal issues involving collegiate Greek organizations and higher education.

Manley Burke will monitor the anti-hazing hotline on a daily basis and will forward all messages to the appropriate fraternal organization, along with the hazing laws from the relevant jurisdictions. In states in which the law requires notification of other authorities, this will be done. A hazing alert for an organization not involved as a sponsor will be handled as though that organization were a sponsor. A voluntary invoice will be sent to cover costs.

“Fraternities and sororities take hazing very seriously and have worked hard to see that hazing is eliminated,” said Tim Burke, president of Manley Burke. “They recognize too many people have been hurt or died as a result of hazing incidents and that today more than 45 states make hazing a crime. Officers of Greek organizations are consistently teaching their members that hazing is antithetical to the high ideals of brotherhood and sisterhood embodied in the fraternity movement,” he continued.

Norval Stephens, chairman of the Delta Tau Delta Educational Foundation and former international president of the fraternity, led efforts in establishing the hotline. Stephens worked to grow interfraternal support for the hotline from the time it was conceived in January 2007 through recruitment of sponsors and participating organizations and finally to its implementation. Stephens explained the goal: “Our experience in the Greek world on hazing and alcohol abuse is that behavior is not changed by research. We believe educational programming and action change behavior. Research illuminates the problem but does not solve it. We hope the hotline helps to eliminate hazing.” Stephens added, “Without exception, all national fraternities and sororities are serious about addressing hazing on the college campus. Many fraternal groups not listed as sponsors already have their own hotlines dedicated to the fight against hazing. We stand with them in our common goal to eliminate these behaviors.”

The Anti-Hazing Hotline is a crucial new tool for Greek organizations to use to fight hazing. The 21 founding sponsors, who represent in excess of 35% of all fraternity and sorority members, have invited other fraternities and sororities to join as official sponsors of the Greek Anti-Hazing Hotline. For more information, please contact Dan McCarthy at Manley Burke at 513-721-5525.

**TCU Hazing Hotline: 817-257-(HAZE) 4293.**