



Greek Life Anti-Hazing Statement

Student Handbook Policy

As used in this policy, hazing is defined as any act committed against a student by another student, acting individually or in concert with others, or aiding or abetting such acts in connection with pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization, team, or group affiliated with Methodist University where such acts, either intentionally or unintentionally, has the effect of physically injuring, humiliating, harassing, intimidating, demeaning, or endangering the physical or the emotional health of any student. A violation of the hazing code can occur **on or off campus**. Methodist University will treat any act of hazing involving Methodist University students either on or off campus in precisely the same manner. The following are examples of prohibited individual/group activities that may constitute as hazing. Please note that this list is not exhaustive.

- Encouraging the use of alcohol or illegal drugs
- Shaving, tattooing, piercing or branding
- Engaging in or simulating sexual acts
- Threatening or causing physical restraint
- Nudity
- Sleep or food deprivation
- Degrading or humiliating games and activities
- Personal servitude
- Physical and/or psychological shocks
- Throwing substances or objects at individuals
- Assigning unreasonable chores or acts of servitude
- Forcing or coercing consumption or use of any substance
- Causing excessive exercise, sleep deprivation or excessive fatigue
- Interfering with adequate time for study
- Requiring the wearing of apparel or acting in a way that is conspicuous and not within community norms
- Blindfolding
- Paddling in any form
- Unreasonable exposure to the weather
- Kidnapping or abandonment
- Line-ups and berating
- Unnecessary interference with academic pursuits

Under North Carolina state laws, hazing is defined more narrowly as follows: “to subject another student to physical injury as part of an intimidation, or as a prerequisite to membership, into any organized school group, including any society, athletic team, fraternity or sorority, or other similar group.” N.C. Gen. Stat. 14-35. Such acts are criminal (Class 2 Misdemeanor) under this statute. In addition to disciplinary action for acts of hazing as defined more broadly by the University, a student who violates the state law definition of hazing is subject to prosecution by local or state authorities.

Sanctions

Students who are found in violation of the Methodist University Hazing Policy will be given a penalty of **probation** and may receive a maximum penalty of **expulsion** from the University. As stated above, any student who violates the North Carolina statute on hazing may also face criminal charges as seen necessary by the University. Responsibility for any violations of this regulation may be attributed to the perpetrators, the organization or group, its members or its officers.

Other members of the University community with knowledge or suspicion of hazing are strongly encouraged to report the activity to the Office of Greek Life or the University Police. All members of the University community shall cooperate in an investigation of hazing. If an organization is in violation of/responsible for any kind of hazing after a proper investigation is conducted, the University holds the right to expel the Greek Organization from the campus. Retaliating in any manner against any individual who reports hazing or who participates in an investigation of a hazing report is prohibited. Any kind of false accusation of hazing is prohibited, and appropriate sanctions will take place as punishment for false accusation.

Any organization or group may be found responsible for any violations of this regulation upon satisfactory proof that the organization or group did not discourage or did not take reasonable steps to prevent hazing by its members or affiliates.

Anti- Hazing Statement

As a fraternity/sorority, new/associate member, I acknowledge I am aware of the policies of the Methodist University Student Handbook and my fraternity/sorority. Furthermore, I pledge that I will not participate in nor allow hazing to occur within my fraternity/sorority.

Student Printed Name- _____ Student ID Number- _____

Student Signature- _____

Fraternity/Sorority- _____

Date- _____