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SECTION: Division of Student Affairs
SUBJECT: Hazing
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REVISED:
Policy for: USC Upstate
Procedure for: USC Upstate
Authorized by: Dr. T. Moore
Issued by: Student Life

I. Policy

No organization, registered or otherwise, officially or in fact, may participate in the activity of hazing.

Hazing is any activity undertaken by a group or organization or a member of that group or organization in which members or prospective members are subjected to activities which harass, intimidate, physically exhaust, impart pain, cause undue mental fatigue, mental distress or which cause mutilation or alteration of the body or parts of the body. Such activities include, but are not limited to, tests of endurance, submission of members or prospective members to potentially dangerous or hazardous circumstances, activities which have a foreseeable potential for resulting in personal injury or any activity, which by its nature is so profound that it would have a potential to cause severe mental anxiety, mental distress, panic, degradation, or public embarrassment.

Registered organizations and groups shall be permitted certain initiation ceremonies and activities, which when examined by the ordinary university student, would seem reasonable under the circumstances and justified in view of the purpose for which they are conducted.

It shall not constitute a defense to the charge of hazing that the participants took part voluntarily, that they voluntarily assumed the risks or hardship of the activity or that no injury in fact was suffered.

For information on the South Carolina Hazing Law, the USC Upstate Policy on Hazing, or to initiate a complaint for alleged hazing, contact the Director of Student Life.

(This policy is adapted from USC Columbia Campus Policy – BUSF 3.05)