

Campus Hazing Transparency Report

Reporting Period: July 1, 2025, to December 23, 2025

Published in accordance with the Stop Campus Hazing Act (SCHA), Pub. L. 118-173

I. OVERVIEW

On December 23, 2024, the Stop Campus Hazing Act (SCHA) was enacted, requiring institutions of higher education to publicly disclose hazing violations involving student organizations. The Act requires:

- Twice-yearly publication of a Campus Hazing Transparency Report,
- Inclusion of all student organizations found responsible for hazing violations,
- Disclosure of four federally required dates per incident (see Section VI),
- Posting the report in a prominent location on the institution's public website, and
- Exclusion of any personally identifiable student information (FERPA).

This report is maintained by Suffolk University's Office of Student Affairs and updated not less than twice per year (on or before January 15 and July 15).

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The full text of the bill can be found [here](#).

II. WHAT THIS REPORT INCLUDES

This Campus Hazing Transparency Report contains only incidents where:

- A formal finding of one or more hazing-related violations was issued;
- A recognized or unrecognized student organization was found responsible;
- The conduct met Suffolk University's definition of hazing.

This report does not include:

- Allegations or investigations where no hazing violation was found;
- Cases involving individuals rather than student organizations;
- Incidents adjudicated solely under other policies;
- Any personally identifiable student information.

A. FERPA Statement:

This report contains no information that could directly or indirectly identify any individual student.

III. SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY'S ANTI-HAZING POLICY

Suffolk University is committed to the safety of our students, student organizations, faculty, staff, and visitors. An essential element to a safe campus is a strong, effective, anti-hazing program.

The University encourages all individuals who are the subject of potential hazing to pursue all legal remedies available to them, including reporting incidents of potential criminal conduct to law enforcement. If the conduct in question is alleged to be a violation of both University policy and the law, the University will proceed with its normal process, regardless of action or inaction by outside authorities.

Decisions made or sanctions imposed through these or other University procedures are not subject to change because criminal charges arising from the same conduct are dismissed, reduced, or rejected.

Through the promulgation, implementation, and enforcement of this Policy, the University complies with Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 269, s. 17 and the Stop Campus Hazing Act. Pub. L. No. 118-173 (2024).

A. Hazing Defined:

Hazing is prohibited and defined as:

Any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that:

- Is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and
- Causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury including:
 - a. whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body, or similar activity;
 - b. causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;

- c. causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
- d. causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;
- e. any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
- f. any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, or Federal law; and
- g. any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law.

B. Prohibition Against Hazing

The University is committed to maintaining an environment of social responsibility that is free of harm, including hazing. Hazing is also against the law and Suffolk University recognizes the act of hazing as illegal, irresponsible, intolerable, and inconsistent with our community standards.

- Hazing activities can be committed against current, former, or prospective members of the community.
- Acts constitute hazing under this Policy regardless of the willingness of such other person(s) to participate in the activity or their actual or apparent consent to engage in the activity.

Hazing includes, but is not limited to behaviors that:

- Emphasize a power imbalance between new members and veterans of the group, club, or team that involve ridicule, embarrassment, and humiliation.
- Cause emotional anguish or physical discomfort that puts unnecessary stress upon the victims (e.g., verbal abuse, threats, sleep deprivation, confinement in spaces, exposure to elements, etc.).
- Have the potential to cause physical and/or emotional harm (e.g., beating, branding, excessive exercise, forced alcohol/food/drug consumption, extreme physical acts, sexual acts, etc.).
- Require someone to perform a task that violates any criminal law.

No policy can address all possible activities or situations that may constitute hazing. Whether a particular activity constitutes hazing will depend on the circumstances and context in which that activity is occurring in light of the above framework.

C. Student Organizations Defined

An organization at Suffolk (including but not limited to social/ academic club, society, association, NCAA athletic team, club sports/intramural team, fraternity, sorority, band, or student government) in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at the institution of higher education, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by the institution.

IV. HAZING PREVENTION AND TRAINING AT SUFFOLK

To ensure that every Suffolk University community member has a foundational understanding of their role in promoting a safe environment that is free from hazing, minimum training outcomes include:

- Defining hazing and the range of hazing behaviors and scenarios;
- Identifying the types of harm and impact that can result from hazing activities;
- Differentiating healthy and unhealthy group behaviors and dynamics;
- Identifying activities that build group cohesion, sense of belonging, and support individual and leadership development without hazing;
- Developing skills to intervene in situations where hazing occurs or is likely to occur, including bystander intervention; and;
- Options for reporting allegations of hazing, including anonymous reporting options.

The University requires training on the above outcomes for all of new students, as well as for student-athletes, and club executive board leaders. Specifically:

- **New Students:** Incoming students will be required to complete training to gain a foundational understanding of recognizing, avoiding, and responding to hazing.
- **Athletes:** In addition to completing all-student training, athletes are required to participate in an annual, pre-season meeting with the athletic director and/or coaches that review the definitions of hazing, provides key examples, and works with student-athletes to develop activities that support team building and competitive success. Compliance will be tracked by the athletic director or their designee.
- **Student Club and Organizational Leaders:** In addition to completing all-student training, a minimum of two executive board members are required to participate in an annual Club and Organizational Leader training.
- **Fraternity and Sorority Members:** In addition to completing all-student training, a minimum of two executive board members are required to participate in an annual Fraternity and Sorority Member training.

Additionally, each year faculty and staff, including coaches, are required to participate in training and will receive the Hazing Policy to ensure they foster an environment that is free of hazing and promotes healthy group cohesion and development. Specifically:

- Employees: At the beginning of each academic year, all employees will receive a copy of the Hazing Policy. In addition, all employees will participate in an annual training that provides a foundational understanding of, recognizing, avoiding, and responding to hazing.
- Athletic Coaching Employees: Athletic coaches will receive the same training as Employees. Additionally, all head athletic coaches are required to participate in an annual, pre-season meeting with the athletic director (or designee) and staff from student affairs division to review the definitions of hazing in the context of athletic teams and to discuss strategies to support team and assistant coaching compliance with the Hazing Policy.

V. REPORTING HAZING

Students, faculty, staff, and student-athletes are encouraged to report hazing incidents. Reports can be made to Suffolk University Police (SUPD) by calling 617-573-8111 or to the Office of Student Affairs by submitting [an incident report](#), which can be completed anonymously. *If necessary, obtain medical attention, and if you feel unsafe call SUPD immediately at 617-573-8111.*

Applicable Processes: Any member of the Suffolk University community who sponsors, operates or participates in a program either on or off campus including but not limited to, Students, student organizations, faculty, staff and volunteers who violate this policy section may be subject to the University's community standards processes.

Consequences for Violations: Sanctions for individuals and organizations found responsible for hazing include, but are not limited to:

- Individuals:
 - Probation, suspension, or dismissal from the university.
 - Removal from university-sponsored housing.
 - Loss of leadership roles within, or removal from, extra-curricular activities or teams.
 - Referral to law enforcement for potential criminal charges.
- Organizations:
 - Suspension or revocation of the organization's university recognition.

- Loss of privileges (e.g., use of university facilities, participation in university events).

Annual Security Report: The University will include hazing statistics in its annual Clery security report, detailing:

- The number of hazing incidents reported.
- The outcomes of investigations.
- Preventive measures taken.

VI. CAMPUS HAZING TRANSPARENCY REPORT: REQUIRED INCIDENT TABLE

The University will publish a Campus Hazing Transparency Report on its public website, summarizing findings concerning any student organization or athletic team found to be in violation of the university's standards of conduct related to hazing. The report will include:

- The name of the student organization or athletic team.
- A general description of the violation and whether it involved the abuse or illegal use of alcohol or drugs.
- Federally required dates (e.g., date of the alleged incident, date of investigation initiation, date of investigation conclusion, date of notice to the organization).
- University findings and any sanctions placed on the individuals and/or organizations.

In compliance with FERPA and federal requirements, this report contains no personally identifiable information about individual students. This report is published in a prominent location on the University’s public website in compliance with the Stop Campus Hazing Act.

A. Incident Table

We have no incidents to report.

Organization Name	Alleged Incident Date	Investigation Start	Investigation End	Notice Date	Description	Alcohol/Drugs Involved	Sanctions

This report was last updated on December 23, 2025.

VII. COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS’ ANTI-HAZING STATUTE

See G.L. c. 269, §§ 17-19.

§17. Hazing; organizing or participating; hazing defined.

§18. Failure to report hazing.

§19. Copy of Secs. 17 to 19; issuance to students and student groups, teams, and organizations; report.