Huskers Don’t Haze

A Guide for Students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
WHAT IS HAZING?
Nebraska state law defines hazing as “any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership with any student organization. Such hazing activity shall include, but not be limited to, whipping, beating, branding, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, or any brutal treatment of the performance of any act which endanger the physical or mental health or safety of any person” (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-311.06).

Nebraska State Law also states that “notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary, consent shall not be a defense” (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-311.07).

WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF HAZING?
Hazing is a Class II misdemeanor in Nebraska. In addition to criminal charges through the state, individuals and organizations can be held responsible by the university through the Student Code of Conduct. (See Article III, B.7.)

YOU CAN STOP HAZING
Don’t be silent. Seek help from:
• Organization advisors or coaches
• Parents or family members
• Others not involved in the activity

If there is ever an immediate threat, call 9-1-1.
If you are unsure whether an activity is or includes hazing, consider whether it meets the following criteria:

• Does this activity promote and reflect the ideals and values of the organization?

• Would you be willing to allow parents to witness this activity? A judge? University administrators? The media?

• Would you be able to defend this activity in a court of law?

**How do I know if it is hazing?**

A GOOD RULE TO FOLLOW WHEN PLANNING AN ACTIVITY FOR YOUR GROUP:

**If you have to ask if what you’re doing is hazing, it probably is.**
CONSENT IS NOT A DEFENSE
Nebraska state law says that an individual cannot give consent to be hazed. Even if someone was ok with an activity, that doesn’t mean the activity wasn’t hazing.

BREAK THE TRADITION
While change can be difficult, your organization will be stronger without hazing activities. Here are some tips to develop a positive environment in your organization, and remember to reach out to advisors, coaches and campus administrators for help.

EDUCATE
Make all members aware of what hazing is and that it will not be tolerated.

BE ALERT
Look out for activities or comments that could lead to or indicate hazing is taking place.

TAKE ACTION
If you have members who are hazing, report it, address the behavior and hold members accountable.

REINVENT
Create activities that welcome new members and make them feel appreciated to create a stronger organization.

WARNING SIGNS OF HAZING
• Secrecy around activities
• Alcohol and/or illegal drugs are often present
• Members justify actions as a “tradition”
• Peer pressure for everyone to participate
• A specific group or individual(s) are singled out
• Activities have potential for dangerous results or have led to a close call
WHERE YOU CAN GET HELP

Hazing isn’t something for you to struggle with alone. Campus resources can provide support and help you determine your options for reporting.

University Health Center (Medical Care)  (402) 472-5000
1500 U St.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)  (402) 472-5000
1500 U St.

Student Legal Services  (402) 472-3350
335 Nebraska Union

Womens Center (Counseling Services)  (402) 472-2598
340 Nebraska Union

Psychological Consultation Center  (402) 472-2351
325 Burnett Hall

UNL Victim Advocate  (402) 472-0203
morgan@voicesofhopelincoln.org

Voices of Hope  (402) 475-7273
24-hour crisis line

Counseling and School Psychology Clinic  (402) 472-1152
49 Teachers College Hall

EXAMPLES OF HAZING

• Forced consumption of alcohol or large amounts of water
• Body shaming
• Push-ups, sit-ups or other vigorous workout activities
• Running personal errands or purchasing items for group members
• Paddling, branding of any form of physical violence
• Abandoning, capturing or kidnapping
ON CAMPUS
There are many locations on campus where you can report hazing. These include, but are not limited to:

Dean of Students Office (402) 472-2021
106 Canfield Administration Bldg.

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs (402) 472-3755
106 Canfield Administration Bldg.

University Police (402) 472-2222
300 N. 17th Street
Text at 69050, keyword: UNLPD
unl.police@unl.edu

Assistant Director for Sport Clubs (402) 472-9648
55-P Sapp Campus Recreation Center

Athletic Medicine (for athletes) (402) 472-2276
Osborne Athletic Complex
800 Stadium Drive

Director of Bands (402) 472-1641
236 Westbrook Music Building

Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life (402) 472-2582
332 Nebraska Union

Student Involvement (402) 472-2454
200 Nebraska Union

ONLINE
The TIPS reporting system provides an online form which can be submitted anonymously. However, it is recommended that you provide contact information in case additional information is needed to investigate. To report, visit http://go.unl.edu/tips.