



Policy Title: Anti-Hazing Policy

Policy Number: PS 9

Purpose of Policy: To prohibit hazing in University programs and activities and to set forth Bellevue University's prevention and awareness programs related to hazing.

Applies to: All Students, Staff, Faculty, and Third-Parties

Policy Statement:

1. **Policy:** Consistent with the Stop Campus Hazing Act (Public Law 118-173), Bellevue University prohibits hazing, as defined below, in all University programs and activities. This policy applies to hazing in any form and committed by any person in a University program or activity, including faculty, staff, individual students, student organizations, volunteers, and others.
2. **Definitions**
 - a. **Hazing** means 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:
 - i. is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and
 - ii. 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:
 1. whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body, or similar activity;
 2. causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;
 3. causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
 4. causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;
 5. any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
 6. any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law; and

7. 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. **Student Organization** means an organization associated with Bellevue University (such as a club, society, association, athletic team, band, or student government) in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at Bellevue University at the time of the incident, whether or not the organization is considered established or recognized by the University.
 - c. **Retaliation** has the same definition as in the Student Code of Conduct, Policy Statement 1901.
3. Reporting Hazing: Hazing presents a serious risk to the health and safety of the campus community. To create a community free of hazing, it is imperative that anyone with knowledge of hazing reports it. Students and student organizations are expected to report known or suspected hazing violations to the Dean of Students office through the online feedback/complaint portal found at www.bellevue.edu/footer/contact-us/contact-us.
4. Determining Violations and Sanctions: The Dean of Students is responsible for investigating reports and determining violations of the Anti-Hazing Policy. Reports under this policy will be investigated and adjudicated pursuant to the procedures and appeal process in the Student Code of Conduct. Sanctions may include those listed in the Student Code of Conduct. Student organizations found responsible for violating this policy may also be subject to organization-level sanctions which may include, but are not limited to: loss of University recognition as a student organization; loss of University privileges, such as funding, access to campus facilities, and use of the University's name; and/or prohibition from operating on campus.
5. Amnesty: The University strongly encourages students to report alleged instances of hazing. Therefore, students who make good faith reports of alleged hazing and who cooperate fully in the student conduct process may not be subject to sanctions for self-reported hazing or other policy violations that may be brought to light in connection with the reported incident, unless the University determines that the violation was egregious. However, the University reserves the right to follow up and address those issues with the student's cooperation as appropriate in a non-disciplinary context. Further, the University cannot guarantee that, if the misconduct is reported to local law enforcement, the police will not take action against an individual for unlawful acts. In order to receive amnesty, students must take initiative to report and get assistance. Students who request amnesty after University staff is aware of the alleged violation or after inquiry by staff, law enforcement, or others will not be eligible for amnesty.
6. Retaliation: The University prohibits retaliation against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured this policy, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or process under this policy. Retaliation violations shall also be investigated and adjudicated pursuant to the definitions, procedures, and appeal process in the Student Code of Conduct.

7. Prevention and Awareness Programing: The University carries out regular prevention and awareness programs related to hazing that are designed to reach students, staff and faculty. Primary prevention strategies, at a minimum, include direct knowledge and skill building programming directed at students, student organizations, and appropriate University faculty and staff at the beginning of each academic year and additional prevention strategies throughout each academic year, which will be described in more detail and published on an annual basis in Bellevue University's Annual Security Report.

Supporting Documentation:	Stop Campus Hazing Act (Public Law 118-173) and any implementing regulations; Bellevue University Academic Catalog & Student Handbook; Policy Statement 1901, Student Code of Conduct
Keywords:	hazing; conduct; student conduct; hazing prevention; hazing awareness
Responsible Office:	Dean of Students Office
Contact Information:	Dean of Students 402-557-7744
Approved by:	Dr. Mary Hawkins, President
Effective Date:	February 1, 2025
Review Cycle and Dates:	This policy statement is new as of the effective date listed above.
APPROVED:	

This policy statement was signed by Dr. Mary Hawkins, Bellevue University President, on February 3, 2025.