



Belmont Abbey[™]
COLLEGE

Belmont Abbey College Hazing Policy

Hazing is strictly prohibited in all its forms (physical, psychological, ridicule, embarrassment, servitude, etc), intentions (voluntary, involuntary, intentional, unintentional, etc) and settings (on-campus, off-campus, private, athletics, clubs and organizations, scholarship programs, academics, etc). Belmont Abbey College prohibits all forms of hazing. Under federal law, hazing is defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by an individual or group—regardless of the victim's willingness to participate—that occurs in connection with initiation into, affiliation with, or maintenance of membership in any student organization. Hazing includes any activity that creates an unreasonable risk of physical or psychological injury.

Additionally, per [North Carolina Law](#), it is unlawful for any student in attendance at any university, college, or school in this State to engage in hazing, or to aid or abet any other student in the commission of this offense. For the purposes of this section hazing is defined as follows: “to subject another student to physical injury as part of an initiation, or as a prerequisite to membership, into any organized school group, including any society, athletic team, fraternity or sorority, or other similar group.” Any violation of this section shall constitute a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Hazing activities and situations include but are not limited to the following:

- whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body, or similar activity
- causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity
- causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances
- causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts
- any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct
- any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law
- 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.

- Hazing also includes forced participation in treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips, or other activities that require participation to travel long distances and find their way back from isolated areas.

Organization at Belmont Abbey College is defined as any club, society, association, athletic team, club sports team, band, Greek organization, or student government entity in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at the university, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by the institution. Students and/or organizations that are found to be responsible for singular or institutionalized hazing will receive serious sanctions that can include, but not limited to: probation with stipulations, reformatting of an organization, suspension for a period of time, loss of official recognition, restitution and expulsion.

Passive participation in hazing (witness to hazing or participating in technological or in person communications where hazing is planned) without reporting can be considered a violation of this policy.

Implied or expressed consent to hazing on the part of subjected to hazing is not a defense under this policy.

Belmont Abbey College delivers ongoing, research-informed hazing prevention and awareness programming to all students, faculty, and staff. Primary prevention strategies focus on promoting ethical leadership, building healthy group cohesion without high-risk rituals, and empowering campus members with practical bystander intervention skills. Training modules are delivered annually through orientation programs, student organization leadership workshops, athletic team briefings and employee education.

How to Report Hazing and Investigations

- Anyone who believes that he or she has experienced hazing themselves, has knowledge of hazing of another person, or is aware of a possible hazing incident involving someone in the Belmont Abbey College community should report to an office. All faculty, staff, and contract employees are mandated to report knowledge of hazing information.
 - Student Life - 704-461-6724
 - Campus Police - 704-400-6200
 - Online reporting form:
https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?BelmontAbbeyCollege&layout_id=3

Belmont Abbey College takes reports of hazing seriously. Investigative facts and information in reports will remain confidential to the level required by law.

When the College receives a report of hazing, the Dean of Students (or designee) immediately initiates an initial assessment. If the report indicates a potential threat to campus safety, interim measures—such as temporary suspension of organization activities or no-contact orders—may be issued immediately.

The formal resolution process includes:

1. **Notice:** Written notification of allegations provided to the involved student(s) or organization leadership.
2. **Fact-Finding:** An impartial investigation involving interviews and evidence collection.
3. **Adjudication:** A conduct meeting to determine responsibility using a preponderance of the evidence standard.
4. **Outcome & Sanctions:** Written notice of findings and any assigned sanctions, ranging from probation to loss of recognition or expulsion.
5. **Appeals:** A designated timeframe for either party to request an appeal based on procedural error or new evidence.

The College reserves the right to delay or run simultaneous conduct and criminal investigations when appropriate.

Students, clubs, organizations, athletics teams, and others found responsible for hazing can and will be subject to disciplinary actions including, but not limited to: probation, suspension, expulsion, loss of recognition, forfeiture of seasons, and/or any consequences as a result of criminal investigations. Employees of Belmont Abbey College found responsible for having knowledge of hazing and not reporting it or participating in hazing themselves will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with College policies and referral for criminal investigation.

Public Disclosures and Reporting

In compliance with the Stop Campus Hazing Act, Belmont Abbey College maintains a public [Campus Hazing Transparency Report](#) on its website. This report lists all formal findings of responsibility of policy or conduct violations related to hazing by recognized student organizations over the past five years. The report is updated twice annually (or immediately following a final finding) and contains no personally identifiable student information, in compliance with FERPA. For each violation, the report provides:

- The name of the involved student organization.
- A brief description of the incident, including whether alcohol or drugs were involved.
- The findings and sanctions imposed by the College.
- Key dates: incident date, investigation start date, investigation ended and responsibility determined, and date official notice provided to student organization, following any appeals..

The Campus Hazing Transparency Report can be accessed on the College's Safety webpage: <https://belmontabbeycollege.edu/campus-safety/>

Hazing is a reportable crime category under the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act. All reported allegations of hazing are evaluated by Campus Police and logged for inclusion in the College's Annual Security Report (ASR). The ASR is published annually every October and is available to all current students, prospective students, and employees.

Clery Act & Campus Hazing Transparency Integration

Hazing is a reportable offense under federal law. The College handles off-campus reporting across two distinct reports:

- **Annual Security Report (ASR):** All reported allegations of hazing occurring within official Clery geography (on campus, public property immediately adjacent to campus, or non-campus property owned/controlled by the College or recognized student organizations) are evaluated by Campus Police and logged for inclusion in the College's Annual Security Report (ASR).
- **Campus Hazing Transparency Report (CHTR):** Any formal finding of responsibility against a student organization for a hazing policy violation will be published on the College's public Transparency Report, **regardless of where the incident occurred** (including off-campus private residences or off-site organization trips).