



Policy Against Hazing

A. Purpose/Policy Statement

1. La Salle University ("La Salle") does not tolerate hazing. Any student or student organization found responsible for Hazing or Organizational Hazing under this Policy, whether occurring on or off campus, may face disciplinary action from La Salle or criminal charges under state law.
2. The purpose of this policy is to state La Salle's prohibition of Hazing, define behaviors that constitute hazing, identify resources for reporting violations, and establish guidelines for investigation and enforcement, and sanctions.
3. This policy shall apply to any acts of Hazing, Aggravated Hazing or Organizational Hazing occurring on or off campus.
4. This Policy is applicable to students, organizations and others persons associated with La Salle operating under the sanction of, or recognized by, La Salle.
5. This Policy complies with the Timothy J. Piazza Antihazing Law, 18 Pa.C.S. § 2801, *et seq.*

B. Definitions

1. **Alcoholic liquid.** A substance containing liquor, spirit, wine, beer, malt or brewed beverage or any combination thereof.
2. **Bodily injury.** Impairment of physical condition or substantial pain (18 Pa.C.S. § 2301).
3. **Drug.** A controlled substance or drug as defined in the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act.
4. **Minor.** An individual younger than 18 years of age.
5. **Organization.** A fraternity, sorority, athletic team, association, corporation, order, society, corps, club or service, social or similar group, whose members are primarily minors, students or alumni of La Salle.
6. **Serious bodily injury.** Bodily injury, which creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious, permanent disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ. (18 Pa.C.S. § 2301).
7. **Student.** An individual who attends or has applied to attend, or has been admitted to La Salle.

C. Prohibited Acts

1. Any Hazing, Aggravated Hazing or Organizational Hazing is prohibited.
 - a. It shall not be a defense that the consent of the Student or Minor was sought or obtained. It shall not be a defense that the conduct was sanctioned or approved by the organization.
2. **Hazing.** 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. The following are non-exhaustive examples of conduct that causes or creates such a risk:
 - 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 applicable local, Pennsylvania State, Tribal, or Federal law; and
 - 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.
3. **Aggravated Hazing.** A person commits the offense of aggravated hazing if the hazing violation results in serious bodily injury or death to the minor or student and:
 - a. The person acts with reckless indifference to the health and safety of the minor or student; or
 - b. The person causes, coerces or forces the consumption of an alcoholic liquid or drug by the minor or student.
4. **Organizational Hazing.** An organization commits the offense of Organizational Hazing if the organization intentionally, knowingly or recklessly promotes or facilitates a violation of Hazing or Aggravated Hazing.
5. **Retaliation.** It is a violation of this policy for any person to retaliate against anyone who files a report of, or participates in the Student Conduct Process concerning, a charge of

Hazing, Aggravated Hazing or Organizational Hazing.

D. Reporting Hazing Violations

1. La Salle encourages all members of its community who believe that they have witnessed, experienced or are aware of conduct that constitutes, or may constitute, Hazing, Aggravated Hazing, or Organizational Hazing in violation of this Policy to report the violation to the Division of Student Affairs.
2. An Incident Report concerning Hazing can be made to La Salle Public Safety, a Residence Life or Community Development staff member, the Director of Student Conduct or via the web at <https://my.lasalle.edu/web/home-community/incident-reporting#>

E. Enforcement

1. Violations of this policy by students will be investigated and enforced in accordance with the Student Conduct Policy by the Student Development and Campus Life Division. Violations involving employees will be investigated and enforced by the Department of Human Resources. All other allegations of Hazing will be investigated and enforced by the Public Safety Department.
2. Any violation of this Policy by a Student(s) or Student Organization(s) shall be deemed a violation of La Salle's Student Code of Conduct and shall be enforced and adjudicated by the Office of Student Conduct in accordance with the Student Conduct Policy.
3. Sanctions.
 - a. The Director of Student Conduct may impose an interim sanction during the pendency of an investigation into or adjudication of a violation of this Policy.
 - b. Any person or organization found responsible for violating this Policy may face disciplinary action, including:
 - i. The withholding of diplomas or transcripts pending compliance with probationary, community service or other rules, or payment of fines;
 - ii. The rescission of permission of the organization to operate on campus or school property or to otherwise operate under the sanction or recognition of La Salle;
 - iii. The imposition of probation, suspension, dismissal or expulsion La Salle; or
 - iv. Any other sanction in accordance with the Student Conduct Policy.
 - c. A penalty imposed by La Salle is in addition to a penalty imposed for violation of an offense under the criminal laws of this Commonwealth or for violation of any other rules or policies to which the violator may be subject.

F. Hazing Prevention and Awareness

1. In alignment with La Salle University's Policy Against Hazing, all forms of hazing are strictly prohibited. The policy also promotes a comprehensive approach that includes education, intervention, and cultural change. Designated student organizations are required to participate in hazing prevention and awareness programs and are provided

with resources that are also available to the wider student body. These research-informed programs, delivered in various modalities, cover policy expectations, reporting procedures, and key prevention strategies, including bystander intervention, ethical leadership, and building group cohesion through positive, non-hazing practices.

G. Bi-Annual Disclosure Report

1. La Salle's Director of Student Conduct will maintain a report of all violations of this Policy or of Federal or State laws related to hazing that are reported to La Salle. The Director of Student Conduct will update the report on January 1 and August 1 of each year and will post the updated report on its publicly available website.

H. Responsible Department

1. The Division of Student Development and Campus Life

END NOTES

SLC/DS

Effective date: January 15, 2019

Revision date(s): June 16, 2025