

Anti-Hazing Policy

Stop Campus Hazing Act and Collins Law

Hazing means doing any of the following, or pressuring, causing, forcing, soliciting, or coercing any person to do any of the following for the purpose of initiative, admitting, or affiliating an individual into or with a student group or student organization; continuing or enhancing an individual's membership or status in a student group or student organization; or perpetuating or furthering a tradition or ritual of a student group or student organization:

- a) Engage in any conduct prohibited by federal and/or state and/or municipal criminal law, regardless of whether an arrest is made, or criminal charges are brought;
- b) Take into their body any food, liquid (including alcohol), drug, or other substance that subjects the person to a substantial risk of mental or physical harm; and/or;
- c) Cause or create a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to another and/or engage in any act or omission that contributes to the death of another.

It is the policy of Valley College to **strictly prohibit** any action or situation which may recklessly or intentionally endanger the mental, physical health and/or safety of its students for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of Valley College. This policy applies to any student or other person who may be associated with any student organization. The policy applies to hazing that takes place between two or more people who are affiliated with the institution regardless if it occurs on or off campus.

It is not a defense to an allegation of hazing that:

1. the consent of the victim had been obtained;
2. the conduct or activity that resulted in the death or injury of a person was not part of any official organizational event or otherwise sanctioned or approved by the student organization or group; or
3. the conduct or activity that resulted in the death or injury of a person was not done as a condition of membership into a student organization.

Students may report any hazing incident to the Campus Director or Campus Security Monitor identified on the student bulletin board. Anonymous reports are accepted; however, the college's ability to obtain additional information may be compromised and the ability to investigate anonymous reports may be limited.

Faculty and staff must report any incidents to the Campus Director or Campus Security Monitor. Collin's Law requires that any administrator, employee, faculty member, teacher, consultant, alumnus or volunteer of any organization immediately report hazing to a law enforcement agency in the county in which the victim of hazing resides or in which the hazing is occurring or has occurred.

Hazing is a serious offence and is subject to the full range of sanctions. Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension and/or termination from school or employment. Hazing or some of the specific acts involved, may violate local, state, or federal laws or regulations; for example, the use of force (including the threat of force) may subject the perpetrator to criminal charges of simple, felonious, or aggravated assault. Punishment upon conviction or plea will be as the court decides and is independent of any decisions made by Valley College under this policy.

The Campus Director shall coordinate the investigation of all hazing allegations and determine the need for interim measures (e.g. suspension of current group activities). Every effort will be taken to complete the investigation in a timely manner. The hazing allegation will be investigated and resolved in keeping with the Student Code of Conduct process. At the point when a formal conduct charge is made against an organization, the national or oversight organization, if any, shall be notified. Criminal investigations resulting from a report to law enforcement will be handled by the appropriate law enforcement agency.

The College will maintain a report of all violations of this Policy that are reported to the College, and which result in a charge of violation of this Policy on the college's Incident Report Form. The College will update the report bi-annually on January 1 and August 1 of each year and will post the updated report on the College's Consumer Information webpage. (Anti-hazing Policy, p2)

This policy is reviewed annually and electronically distributed to the campus faculty and staff who are associated with our Student Groups. The Campus Director shall be responsible for the administration of this policy.

Resources: <https://highered.ohio.gov/initiatives/campus-initiatives/hazing-prevention/hazing> , Stop Campus Hazing Act Public Law 118-173: www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5646/text ; [West Virginia Code | §18-16-2](http://West%20Virginia%20Code%20%7C%20%2418-16-2)

Statistics Report

Summary of the number of violations that were reported to the College that resulted in a charge of violation of this Policy.

January 1, 2026 report

Location	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026*
Cleveland (OH)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fairlawn (OH)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beckley (WV)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Martinsburg (WV)	0	0	0	0	0	0

- All hazing violations for which investigations concluded between July 1 and December 31 of the previous year.

August 1, 2025 report

Location	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*
Cleveland (OH)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fairlawn (OH)	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
Beckley (WV)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Martinsburg (WV)	0	0	0	0	0	0

- All hazing violations for which investigations concluded between January 1 and June 30 of the same year.