



Consumer Information: Hazing Policy Disclosure

Last Updated: January 2026

Stop Campus Hazing Act and Collins Law

Valley College is committed to maintaining a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all students. Hazing is strictly prohibited. Valley College complies with the Stop Campus Hazing Act (Public Law 118-173), which requires institutions to maintain transparency regarding hazing incidents, provide prevention education, and make hazing-related information publicly available.

What Is Hazing?

Hazing is any act that is intended to initiate, admit, or affiliate a person into a student group or organization, or to maintain membership, that may endanger their physical or mental health or safety.

Hazing includes, but is not limited to:

- Forcing or pressuring someone to consume food, alcohol, drugs, or other substances
- Any behavior that causes or could cause physical harm
- Any activity that causes mental or emotional distress
- Any act that violates federal, state, or local law
- Any activity that creates a risk of injury or death

Hazing can occur **on or off campus** and applies to all students and student organizations.

Policy Statement

Valley College strictly prohibits hazing in any form.

Consent of the individual does **not** make hazing acceptable, and it is not a defense to a violation.

How to Report Hazing

Students are encouraged to report hazing concerns immediately.

Hazing Incidents may be reported to:

- **Campus Director**
- **Campus Security Monitor**
- **Local Law Enforcement**

Contact information is available on the Valley College website and campus postings.

Anonymous Reporting

Anonymous reports are accepted. However, the ability to investigate may be limited if insufficient information is provided.

Protection from Retaliation

Valley College prohibits retaliation against anyone who reports hazing in good faith.

What Happens After a Report Is Made

- Reports are reviewed promptly
- The College will determine whether interim safety measures are needed
- Investigations are conducted following the Student Code of Conduct
- Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken if violations are confirmed

Possible outcomes include:

- Suspension
- Termination of enrollment or employment
- Referral to law enforcement

Hazing Prevention and Education

Valley College provides hazing prevention education to students and student organizations. These programs:



- Promote awareness of hazing risks
- Encourage safe and respectful group activities
- Educate students on how to report concerns

Related Policies and Resources

- Student Code of Conduct
- Campus Safety Policies
- Hazing Prevention Resources:
 - Ohio Department of Higher Education
 - Stop Campus Hazing Act (Public Law 118-173)
 - West Virginia Code §18-16-2

Important Reminder

Hazing is a serious violation of college policy and may also violate state and federal law. Individuals involved in hazing may face both institutional discipline and criminal penalties.

Collins Law Requirements (Ohio)

In accordance with **Collin's Law (Ohio Revised Code 2307.44 and 2903.31)**, the following requirements apply:

Duty to Report Hazing

Any individual who is aware of hazing is strongly encouraged to report it.

In addition, **all employees, faculty, staff, volunteers, and organization members who have actual knowledge of hazing are required to immediately report it to law enforcement** in the county where:

- The hazing occurred
- The victim resides

Failure to report hazing as required may result in legal consequences.

Prohibition on Hazing

Under Collin's Law, no person shall knowingly:

- Cause or participate in hazing
- Recklessly participate in hazing
- Permit hazing to occur

This applies regardless of:

- Consent of the individual
- Whether the activity is voluntary
- Whether the activity is considered a "tradition"

Criminal Penalties

Hazing may result in criminal charges, including:

- **Misdemeanor or felony offenses**, depending on severity
- More serious charges if hazing results in:
 - Physical harm
 - Serious bodily injury
 - Death

Institutional Obligations

Valley College is required under Collin's Law to:

- **Investigate all reported hazing incidents**
- **Report hazing to law enforcement when applicable**
- **Maintain a public report of hazing violations**
- **Provide hazing prevention education and awareness programs**

Immunity for Good Faith Reporting

Individuals who report hazing **in good faith** are protected from:

- Retaliation by the institution or organization
- Certain civil liability, when applicable under law

Hazing Transparency Report (Stop Campus Hazing Act Requirement)

This report includes incidents that resulted in a formal investigation and the finding that a violation of the College's anti-hazing policy occurred. This information is publicly available on the Valley College Consumer Information webpage.

Reporting Periods:

- **January 1 – June 30**
- **July 1 – December 31**

Statistics Report

Reporting Period: January 1, 2026

No hazing incidents were reported that resulted in a policy violation at any campus location during the reporting periods listed below.

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

Reporting Period: August 1, 2026

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

- *Zero values indicate that no reported incidents resulted in a formal finding of a policy violation during the reporting period.*
- Updates are posted **biannually (January 1 and August 1)** on the Consumer Information webpage.