(A) Policy statement

The University of Toledo supports the autonomy of its student organizations within the established rules and regulations as outlined in the student handbook and other official University publications. Initiation into University organizations is permissible excluding any activities that may be construed as hazing.

No student group, student organization, individual student, or alumnus shall conduct or condone hazing activities.

Pursuant to Ohio law under section 2903.31 of the Ohio revised code “hazing” is defined as committing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to commit any act of initiation individually or with any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. No person shall recklessly participate in the hazing of another. No administrator, employee, or faculty member of any primary, secondary, or post-secondary school or of any other educational institution, public or private, shall recklessly permit the hazing of any person. Hazing is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree under Ohio Law.

The University of Toledo defines hazing as any act or situation, which endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition of continued membership, regardless of one’s willingness to participate. Hazing may occur of an individual or group causes or attempts to cause physical injury, or other harm to a person emotionally, or engages in conduct, which presents a threat to the person’s health or safety; Engages in an action or activity, which is intended to demean, disgrace, humiliate, or degrade a person; Engages in conduct that by design or intent interferes with, or attempts to interfere with a person’s academics; Causes, pressures, or requires a student to violate the law.

When a student, student group, and/or student organization is found to be involved in hazing activity, the University shall have the authority to initiate conduct proceedings regardless of the location of the activity. Such action shall be conducted in compliance with normal Student Code of Conduct proceedings. Students, student groups, and/or student organizations found in violation of the University hazing policy shall be subject to the range of sanctions available to the University as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.
Policies Superseded by This Policy:
• Previous 3364-30-20, effective date
  February 11, 2011

Initial Effective Date: February 11, 2011
Review/Revision Date: September 25, 2017
Next review date: September 25, 2020