

The Hazing Act
Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 269
Sections 17 through 19 (November 26, 1985)
as amended by Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1987 (January 5, 1988)

This is a true copy of sections 17, 18, and 19 of the Hazing Act to be provided to each NECC student in accordance with the law.

Section 17. Hazing; organizing or participating; hazing defined

Whoever is a principal organizer or participant in the crime of hazing, as defined herein, shall be punished by a fine of not more than three thousand dollars or by imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment. The term "hazing" as used in this section and in sections eighteen and nineteen, shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student Organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. Such conduct shall include whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any other brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical health or safety of any such student or other person, or which subjects such student or other person to extreme mental stress, including extended deprivation of sleep or rest or extended isolation.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, consent shall not be available as a defense to any prosecution under this action.

Section 18. Failure to report hazing

Whoever knows that another person is the victim of hazing as defined in section seventeen and is at the scene of such crime shall, to the extent that such person can do so without danger or peril to himself or others, report such crime to an appropriate law enforcement official as soon as reasonably practicable. Whoever fails to report such crime shall be punished by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.

Section 19. Copy of sections 17, 18 and this section; issuance to students and student groups, teams and Organizations; report

Each institution of secondary education and each public and private institution of post secondary education shall issue to every student group, student team or student Organization which is part of such institution or is recognized by the institution or permitted by the institution to use its name or facilities or is known by the institution to exist as an unaffiliated student group, student team or student Organization, a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen; provided, however, that an institution's compliance with this section's requirements that an institution issue copies of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to unaffiliated student groups, teams or Organizations shall not constitute evidence of the institution's recognition or endorsement of said unaffiliated student groups, teams or Organizations.

Each such group, team or Organization shall distribute a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership. It shall be the duty of each such group, team or Organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually to the institution an attested acknowledgement stating that such group, team or Organization has received a copy of this section and said sections seventeen and eighteen, that each of its members, plebes, pledges, or applicants has received a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen, and that such group, team, or Organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post secondary education shall, at least annually, before or at the start of enrollment, deliver to each person who enrolls as a full time student in such institution a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

Each institution of secondary education and each public or private institution of post secondary education shall file, at least annually, a report with the regents of higher education and in the case of secondary education, the board of education, certifying that such institution has complied with its responsibility to inform student groups, teams or Organizations and to notify each full time student enrolled by it of the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen and also certifying that such institution has adopted a disciplinary policy with regard to the organizers and participants of hazing, and that such policy has been set forth with appropriate emphasis in the student handbook or similar means of communicating the institution's policies to its students. The board of regents and, in the case of secondary institutions, the board of education shall promulgate regulations governing the content and frequency of such reports, and shall forthwith report to the attorney general any such institution which fails to make such report.

Northern Essex Community College Haverhill · Lawrence

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Disciplinary Policy with regard to Organizers and Participants of Hazing

The Hazing Act requires the College to have a disciplinary policy for the organizers and participants of hazing, and to set it forth with appropriate emphasis in the student handbook or similar means of communicating the institution's policies to its students. This document sets forth this policy, which will be published and otherwise promulgated.

The College procedures concerning the initiation of disciplinary proceedings contained within the Due Process policy (available in the Enrollment Management & Services office) state that:

Any academic or administrative official of the College, any member of the faculty, or by any student of the College may file charges against any student for misconduct. The charges shall be filed in writing to the Vice-President of Enrollment Management and Student Services. In extraordinary circumstances as determined by the Vice-President, the Vice President may suspend the student charged pending further consideration of the case.

Organizing or participating in hazing shall be deemed misconduct and charges will be filed in writing to the Vice-President of Enrollment Management and Student Services. Such charges will be considered "extraordinary circumstances" and the student(s) concerned will be suspended immediately pending further consideration of the case.

Further consideration of the case shall be determined by the provisions of the Due Process Policy of the College.

When it is determined in accordance with the Due Process Policy and procedures that a charged party was an organizer or participant in hazing under the meaning of the law the sanctions recommended by the hearing board shall be limited to restitution, suspension or expulsion.

Students have the right to file a grievance if they feel that the action taken in the alleged incident discriminated or abrogated their individual or student rights. Students may contact the Vice-President of Enrollment Management and Services for detailed information about the Student Grievance Procedure.



Northern Essex Community College
Student Engagement Center
Haverhill · Lawrence

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Attested Acknowledgment

The Hazing Act (a true copy of which is provided with this acknowledgement) requires:

- (1) each such group, team or Organization to distribute a copy of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen to each of its members, plebes, pledges or applicants for membership.
- (2) each such group, team or Organization, acting through its designated officer, to deliver annually to the institution an attested acknowledgement stating that such group, team or Organization has received a copy of this section and said sections seventeen and eighteen, that each of its members, plebes, pledges, or applications has received a copy of sections seventeen and eighteen; and
- (3) each such group, team or Organization understands and agrees to comply with the provisions of this section and sections seventeen and eighteen.

I, _____ (Club and Organization advisor/head coach) and
(Please print)

I, _____ (Club and Organization president/team captain)
(please print)

do hereby attest and acknowledge that we have complied in full with the provisions of the Hazing Act as set out by the above items stipulated in section 19 of the Act, and that this form serves as the required attested acknowledgement.

Name of group, team or Organization _____

Signed _____ Date _____

(Club and Organization Advisor/Head Coach)

Signed _____ Date _____

(Club and Organization Advisor/Head Coach)

This completed form must be submitted to the Director, Student Engagement Center no later than **September 30th** each year.



Hazing Act Signature Form

Club or Organization Name _____ Date _____

Advisor's Name(s) _____

Department _____

Phone No.: _____ Email: _____

***I DO HEREBY ATTEST AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I COMPLIED IN FULL WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE HAZING ACT AS SET OUT BY THE ABOVE ITEMS STIPULATED IN SECTION 19 OF THE ACT AND THAT THIS FORM SERVES AS THE REQUIRED ATTESTED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.**

Student's Name _____	Student Signature _____
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1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____