



# What Hazing Looks Like

## Hazing Defined

Hazing is any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental, physical or emotional health or safety of any individual, regardless of the person's willingness to participate. Phi Sigma Pi neither approves of nor shall be responsible for actions of Members which result in an injury to a person or damage to property. Definitions of hazing vary but all have common factors:

- Power differential between those in a group and those who want to join a group, or between senior and junior members of a group
- Intentional initiation rite, practice or 'tradition' involved
- Willingness to participate does not absolve responsibility for either party

## What do I do if I Witness Hazing?

Phi Sigma Pi is a Fraternity of Brothers who treat each other with dignity and respect. There is no place for hazing in our organization. When an incident of hazing is reported, the National Office takes it very seriously. If you are aware of hazing by Brothers of Phi Sigma Pi to anyone, you can help by reporting it using the form on the Contact Us page on the PSP website.

Hazing comes in many forms: any action that causes embarrassment, harassment or ridicule, risks emotional or physical harm or if you are unsure of whether what you're witnessing is hazing, report it anyway. If you witness activity (a drop down menu lists possible offenses on the form), please report it to:

<https://phisigmapi.org/contactus>

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### Examples of Hazing

- Forced activities for new recruits to 'prove' their worth to join
- Forced or required consumption of alcohol or to eat spicy foods, other substances
- Requirement to endure hardships such as staying awake, menial tasks, physical labor, running while blindfolded, etc.
- Humiliation or isolation of new or potential members
- Beatings, paddling, or other physical acts against new or potential members
- Requirements for new or potential members to do things established members are not required to do
- Illegal activities such as requirement to steal local items as part of a scavenger hunt

## Is this Hazing?

Not sure whether or not something happening to you or to someone else is hazing? Ask yourself these questions:

- Would I feel comfortable participating in this activity if my parents were watching?
- Would we get in trouble if a school/college administrator walked by and saw us?
- Am I being asked to keep these activities a secret?
- Am I doing anything illegal?
- Does participation in this activity violate my values or those of this organization?
- Is this causing emotional or physical distress or stress to myself or to others?
- Am I going to be able to get a job if I have to put a criminal arrest on my application?