



SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE

Dear Jaguars,

South Texas College is dedicated to maintaining a safe and supportive educational environment for all. Hazing by any individual or group associated with the college is strictly prohibited. All students and organizations are expected to fully comply with state laws, college policies and administrative rules that ban hazing in any form.

South Texas College's information regarding the administrative student conduct process and the student conduct hearing procedures are outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, located within the Student Handbook at:

https://www.southtexascollege.edu/pdf/Student_Handbook.pdf.

Information about Hazing

Texas Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter F, pertains to hazing at institutions of higher education. Texas Education Code, Section 51.936(c), requires that for each fall or spring semester a higher educational institution shall distribute to each student enrolled a summary of the subchapter and a report on hazing incidents each year. Colleges must distribute a summary of the hazing rules, which includes definitions of hazing, examples of prohibited conduct, and the potential consequences for students involved and distribute a report on hazing incidents.

Hazing Defined

"Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization if the act:

- A. is any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or similar activity;
- B. involves sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, calisthenics, or other similar activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student;
- C. involves consumption of a food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug, or other substance, other than as described by Paragraph (E), that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student;
- D. is any activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task that involves a violation of the Penal Code; or
- E. involves coercing, as defined by Section [1.07](#), Penal Code, the student to consume:
 - i. a drug; or
 - ii. an alcoholic beverage or liquor in an amount that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student is intoxicated, as defined by Section 49.01, Penal Code.

Personal Hazing Offense

A person commits an offense if the person:

- A. engages in hazing;
- B. solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing;
- C. recklessly permits hazing to occur; or
- D. has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student in an educational institution, or has firsthand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report that knowledge to the dean of students or other appropriate official of the institution, a peace officer, or a law enforcement agency.

Potential Consequences

There are serious consequences for individuals and organizations involved in hazing activities. It is crucial to understand the impact of these actions on the individuals being hazed, those conducting the activities, and the organizations to which they belong. Individuals accused of participating in hazing may face various repercussions, including:

- Legal actions that could lead to jail time and fines.
- Disciplinary action from college: Those found responsible for hazing may face sanctions that range from participation in educational programs to suspension or expulsion from the college.
- Additionally, student organizations may suspend or terminate the duties of officers and/or revoke membership. Athletic teams may suspend an athlete's privileges or remove a student from the team altogether.

Reporting:

South Texas College strongly encourages anyone who has witnessed, experienced, or has knowledge of hazing to report it. Faculty and staff are required to report all instances of hazing. Allegations of hazing should be reported to the Department of Public Safety at 956-872-4444. You may also report hazing incidents to local police departments or by calling 911 in the case of emergencies.

Additionally, allegations of Hazing can be reported via the:

- Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities – Phone: 956-872-2180
- Filing a Complaint online: [Complaints Concerning Students](#)
- Employee Report:
Any College District employee who suspects or receives notice that a student or group of students has or may have experienced hazing shall notify the dean of student affairs in accordance with college policy FMA [Discipline and Penalties: Discipline Procedure](#).

Penalized Organizations

In compliance with the Texas Education Code, Section 51.936(c):

South Texas College does not have any organizations to report. STC found no organization responsible for hazing for the period of January 2025 to February 2026.

This report is in accordance with the Clery: Stop Campus Hazing Act, the Campus Hazing Transparency Report can be found at:

<https://www.southtexascollege.edu/stcdps/pdf/campus-hazing-transparency-report.pdf>.

Questions or Concerns?

Please email the STC Department of Public Safety at stcdps@southtexascollege.edu or call us at 956-872-4444.



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