Hazing at the University of Pittsburgh is considered a Violation of the University’s Anti-Hazing Policy and Code and is absolutely prohibited. Hazing may also be considered a criminal act in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

For purposes of this definition, any activity as described in this definition upon which the initiation or admission into or affiliation with or continued membership in an organization is directly or indirectly conditioned shall be presumed to be “forced” activity, the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity notwithstanding. Therefore, any Student who causes or participates in hazing may be subject to appropriate University discipline and/or may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Hazing is defined as follows:

**Hazing**
A person commits hazing if the person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting or affiliating a minor or student into or with an organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing a minor or student's membership or status in an organization, causes, coerces or forces a minor or student to do any of the following:

1. Violate Federal or State criminal law;
2. Consume any food, liquid, alcoholic liquid, drug or other substance which subjects the minor or student to a risk of emotional or physical harm;
3. Endure brutality of a physical nature, including whipping, beating, branding, calisthenics or exposure to the elements;
4. Endure brutality of a mental nature, including activity adversely affecting the mental health or dignity of the individual, sleep deprivation, exclusion from social contact or conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment;
5. Endure brutality of a sexual nature;
6. Endure any other activity that creates a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury to the minor or student.

**Aggravated Hazing**
A person commits aggravated hazing if the person commits a violation of hazing that results in serious bodily injury or death to the minor or student and:

1. the person acts with reckless indifference to the health and safety of the minor or student; or,
2. the person causes, coerces or forces the consumption of an alcoholic liquid or drug by the minor or student.

**Organizational Hazing**
A student organization commits organizational hazing if the organization intentionally, knowingly or recklessly promotes or facilitates a violation of hazing or aggravated hazing.

Students and others are encouraged to report incidents, and suspected incidents of hazing. Reports may be made to the University Police (814-269-7005), the Office of Student Conduct (814-269-7133).