

Louisiana Tech University
Statement on Hazing / Alcohol / & Substance Abuse
2009-2010

The purpose and philosophy of Louisiana Tech University and the laws of the State of Louisiana include the belief that true fraternalism can be nurtured only in an atmosphere of social and moral responsibility and that hazing and substance abuse are inconsistent with the responsibility of the student organization to conduct safe, constructive student education. In accordance with this philosophy and in an attempt to eliminate these harmful practices, Louisiana Tech University has adopted the following policies. These policies are to be followed by all students and student organizations including but not limited to the Greek organization, clubs, and athletic teams.

The gravity of the situation necessitates the distribution of relevant information concerning alcohol abuse, substance abuse, and hazing. Every student and employee of the University plays an important role in helping to maintain a learning and living environment.

There are many local, state and federal laws which pertain to the illegal use and distribution of alcohol, other drugs, and hazing. The listing below is a synopsis of sections of the law and should not be construed as legal advice. The consequences of not understanding and adhering to this information and the laws of the State of Louisiana may have a devastating effect on your educational plans and career pursuits. For additional information on these subjects and information concerning the availability of free legal advice, refer to your *Student Handbook* or contact the Office of Student Affairs in Keeny Hall room 305. Any violation of university policy or state law should be immediately reported to the University Police (257-4018) and/or the Office of Judicial Affairs (257-3396). Specific regulations concerning student organizations and the use of alcohol are found in the *Student Handbook* on pages 60-61. Regulations concerning drug use may be found in the Student Rights, Responsibilities, & Behavior on page 16 of the *Student Handbook*.

- **Is it illegal to drink alcohol beverages in public?**
Yes. (Section 5.4) Maximum \$500 fine and/or 60 days in prison.

- **Is it unlawful to appear intoxicated in public?**
Yes. (Section 11-161) Maximum \$500 fine and/or 60 days in prison.

- **At what age can I legally possess alcoholic beverages?**
You must be 21 years of age or older to legally purchase or possess alcoholic beverages (\$50 maximum fine). (R.S. 14:91.5)

- **What are legal limits in the State of Louisiana concerning D.W.I. and D.U.I. ?**
Louisiana law [R.S. 14:98] D.W.I. is defined as BAC level of 0.10 or above.
Louisiana law [R.S. 14.98(a)(1)(b)] D.U.I. is defined as a BAC of 0.02 to 0.99 for people under the age of 21.

- **Are there state laws and University policies prohibiting hazing?**
Yes. Both state law and university policy require expulsion from the University of students involved in such activity. Hazing is defined under state law in Title 17:1801 and under University policy in the Student Handbook on pages 8 and 9 and as listed as follows:

“HAZING” is defined as any reckless or intentional action taken or any situation created which produces mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities and

situations include, **but are not limited to**, the following:

- A. Creating or inflicting or requiring physical or psychological pain:
 - 1. paddle swats, other hits, burnings, brandings, treeings, shoving, tickling, bondage or restriction, blindfolding, etc.;
 - 2. forced exercise, jogs, runs;
 - 3. road trips, scavenger/treasure hunts, quests;
 - 4. “hell” night or week;
 - 5. requiring or forcing the drinking of alcohol or other abusive substances;
 - 6. requiring or forcing the eating or consuming of anything the individual refuses;
 - 7. depriving an individual of food or drink or other necessity;
 - 8. requiring or coercing someone to perform public stunts, buffoonery;
 - 9. shaving or applying substances (oil, whipped cream, etc.) onto the body of a student;
 - 10. nudity;
 - 11. personal or group servitude (washing cars, errands, cleaning); or
 - 12. wearing apparel which is uncomfortable to the individual, or if worn publicly, is conspicuous or not normally in good taste.

- B. Creating or inflicting or requiring any activity that detracts from adequate study or class time or productive work, or any activity that is not consistent with the academic mission of Louisiana Tech University—for example, any activity or situation that keeps an individual from less than six uninterrupted hours of sleep.

- C. Degrading or humiliating or ridiculing or harassing an individual or group through words or deeds:
 - 1. line-ups or interrogations;
 - 2. name calling; or
 - 3. threats, lies.

- D. Forcing a person to break a University, local, state, or federal law or policy.

The expressed or implied consent of a person to any such actions shall not be considered an exception to this policy and is not defensible as a violation thereof.

Not only is hazing against University regulations, but Louisiana Law 1801 prohibits hazing in any form. Violators will be subject to a fine, imprisonment, and shall be expelled from their educational institution.

My signature below denotes that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by regulations and policy listed above and in the University’s *Student Handbook*.. Additionally, I acknowledge my responsibility and agree to make each member of my organization aware of the above listed policies and others as published in the *Student Handbook*. I understand that copies of the *Student Handbook* are available in Keeny Hall 305.

Print Name

Prospective member’s signature

date