

## HAZING

### **I. Purpose**

Western Dakota Technical College (WDTC) believes hazing presents serious risks to a person's wellbeing and safety and interferes with educational and occupational success. A person needs to feel secure to perform at a maximum level.

### **II. General Statement of Policy**

- A. Hazing is strictly prohibited and is a Student Code of Conduct violation per WDTC Policy 4435. Violations will be addressed through Policy 4440 – Student Resolution Process and its associated procedures.
- B. Knowledge or having received notification of a hazing incident are to be reported to the Student Success Center supervisor, Compliance Officer, or the VP for Institutional Effectiveness and Student Success.

### **III. Definitions**

- A. Hazing means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons regardless of the willingness of the person or persons to participate, that
  - 1. Is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and
  - 2. Causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the College (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury including –
    - a. Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body, or similar activity;
    - b. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
    - c. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;
    - d. Any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
    - e. Any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law; and

- f. Any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law.
- B. “Student organization” means an organization at the College in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at the College. Examples include a club, society, association, league, and a club sports team. (The student organization does not need to be established or recognized by the College for this policy.)

**IV. Reporting Procedures – None**

**V. Dissemination of Policy and Training**

- A. This policy shall appear on the WDTC website on the policy page.

Legal References: Higher Education Act of 1965, §485(f) - Jeanne Clery Safety Act(Clery Act)

Board Approved 4/9/2025