

Olin College of Engineering Anti-Hazing Policy

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 269, Sections 17–19 and the Federal Stop Campus Hazing Act

I. Policy Statement

Olin College of Engineering strictly prohibits hazing in all forms. Hazing is antithetical to the values of respect, inclusion, and integrity that define the Olin community. No student organization, group, team, or individual may engage in or condone hazing as a condition for admission into, or continued membership in, any organization affiliated with the College.

This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, recognized student organizations, athletic teams, and informal groups, regardless of whether the hazing occurs on or off campus.

II. Definition of Hazing

Under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 269, "hazing" shall mean any conduct or method of initiation into any student organization, whether on public or private property, which willfully or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of any student or other person. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Physical brutality such as whipping, beating, branding, or exposure to the elements;
- Forced consumption of food, liquor, drugs, or other substances;
- Acts intended to cause extreme mental stress, embarrassment, or isolation; and
- Forced or coerced conduct that could result in extreme fatigue, sleep deprivation, or disruption of academic or employment obligations.

Consent is not a defense. Even if an individual appears to consent, hazing remains a violation of this policy and the law.

III. Required Reporting and Policy Distribution

To comply with Chapter 269 and the Stop Campus Hazing Act:

- This policy and relevant state and federal anti-hazing laws shall be distributed annually to every student and recognized student organization.

- The College shall provide online, publicly accessible information about hazing incidents involving student organizations over the past five years, including a description of the incident, findings, sanctions, and outcomes, as required by federal law.
- All student organizations* must sign an acknowledgment form annually affirming they have received, understood, and will comply with the anti-hazing policy.
- The College will file an annual report with the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education certifying compliance with the law.

*Any group, team, or organization that is part of Olin College or is recognized by or permitted by Olin College to use its name or facilities, or is known by Olin College to exist as an unaffiliated student group, team, or organization, shall distribute a copy of the applicable sections of the Massachusetts anti-hazing statute (Sections 17 and 18 of Chapter 269) to each of its members, pledges, or applicants for membership.

IV. Educational Efforts

Olin College is committed to proactive hazing prevention and education. The College will:

- Require each incoming student to complete an online hazing prevention training prior to the start of their first semester;
- Provide annual hazing prevention training to student leaders, athletes, and members of student groups, teams, or organizations;
- Host educational programs promoting healthy team-building, inclusion, and ethical leadership; and
- Collaborate with community partners to ensure a safe and supportive campus environment.

V. Reporting Hazing

All members of the Olin community are strongly encouraged—and in some cases required—to report suspected hazing. Reports may be made confidentially or anonymously to:

- Dean of Students Office: 781-292-2321
- Olin College CARE Team: [CARE Team Report](#)
- Campus Public Safety: 781-239-5555

Retaliation against individuals who report hazing in good faith is strictly prohibited.

VI. Sanctions for Violations

Violations of this policy may result in:

- Disciplinary action under the Honor Code, including suspension or expulsion
- Revocation of recognition for student organizations
- Referral to law enforcement for possible criminal prosecution under Chapter 269, which includes:
 - Fines of up to \$3,000
 - Imprisonment of up to one year (or both)
 - Mandatory reporting of organizational participation in hazing to the Attorney General's Office

Additionally, per the Federal Stop Campus Hazing Act, confirmed incidents of hazing will be publicly disclosed on the College website.

VII. Additional Resources

- Full text of the Massachusetts anti-hazing statute:
<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartIV/TitleI/Chapter269>
- Federal Stop Campus Hazing Act details:
<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5646>
- Olin College Student Honor Code

[Student Rights & Responsibilities | Olin College of Engineering](#)

- Contact the Office of Student Affairs with any questions or concerns: StAR@olin.edu
-

Approved by the Office of the Dean of Students

Effective: 06/01/25

Review Date: 06/01/26