

**POLICY: 6Hx28:8-12**



Responsible Official:  
Vice President, Student Affairs

Specific Authority: 1006.63 and 1001.64, F.S.  
Law Implemented: 1006.63 and 1001.64, F.S.

Effective Date: 12-20-2005

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## Hazing

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### Policy Statement:

- I. Hazing is prohibited at Valencia College pursuant to Section 1006.63, Florida Statutes. All organizations and individuals are prohibited from engaging in any form of hazing either on campus or off campus. Valencia College does not condone hazing in any form and defines hazing to include:
- II. Any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purposes including but not limited to: of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of Valencia College. Such term includes, but is not limited to, pressuring or coercing the student into violating any state or federal law, any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, or other forced physical activity which could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the student, and also includes any activity which would subject the student to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the student. Hazing does not include customary athletic events or other similar contests or competitions or any activity or conduct that furthers a legal and legitimate objective.
- III. Section 1006.53 Florida Statutes further defines that a person who commits hazing either intentionally or recklessly that results in serious bodily injury or death of another person will have committed a third degree felony, punishable as prohibited in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. A person who commits hazing either intentionally or recklessly that creates a

substantial risk of physical injury or death to another person will have committed a first degree misdemeanor, punishable as prohibited in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

- IV. Penalties for violation of this policy shall be administered in accordance with Valencia College Policy 6Hx28:10-04 Student Disciplinary Action; subject, however, to any limitations or additional penalties contained in Subsection 1006.63 (8) (a,b,c)
- A. Such penalties at Valencia College may include the imposition of fines; the withholding of diplomas or transcripts pending compliance with the rules or pending payment of fines; and the imposition of probation, suspension, or expulsion from the college.
  - B. In the case of an organization/club at Valencia College which authorizes hazing in blatant disregard of such rules, penalties may also include rescission of permission for that organization to operate on campus property or to otherwise operate under the sanction of the institution.
  - C. All penalties imposed under the authority of this subsection shall be in addition to any penalty imposed for violation of any of the criminal laws of this state or for violation of any other rule of the institution to which the violator may be subject.
  - D. It is not a defense to a charge of hazing that the consent of the victim had been obtained, the conduct or activity was not part of an official organizational event or was not otherwise sanctioned or approved by the organization, or the conduct or activity was not done as a condition of membership.
- V. This policy by its inclusion in the Student Handbook is provided to each student enrolled in the institution and is included in the bylaws of each club/organization operating under the sanction of Valencia College pursuant to Section 1006.63 (10), F.S.

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**Procedures:**

None

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**Related Documents/Policies:**

None

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**Policy History:**

Adopted 12-11-74; Formerly 6Hx28:10-04; Adopted 11-18-92; Amended 12-20-05; Formerly 6Hx28:10-17