

Chapman University Campus Hazing Transparency Report 2025-2026



Department of Student Engagement
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CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

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2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapman University is committed to fostering a safe and supportive campus environment for all students that prioritizes student well-being and organizational accountability. In alignment with federal and state legislation, this Campus Hazing Transparency Report provides a comprehensive overview of campus efforts to prevent, respond to, and report hazing activities.

This report outlines Chapman University's compliance with United States House Resolution 5646 and California Assembly Bill 2193, including detailed summaries of both laws and definitions of key terminology (Sections 2 and 3). It provides the University's definition of hazing (Section 5) and clearly describes reporting mechanisms, hazing investigation procedures, resources available to students, and active education and prevention programming. In addition, a summary of reported hazing incidents at Chapman University is included in Appendix A.

This transparency report underscores Chapman University's commitment to continuous improvement and accountability regarding hazing on campus. Through this report, Chapman University reaffirms its dedication to ensuring that all students can participate in campus life free from the threat of hazing or harm.

Annual statistics on hazing will be available in the University's [Annual Security and Fire Report](#). Please note that hazing statistics will be included beginning with the 2026 report. Hazing statistics include incident reports that meet the federal definition of hazing in Section 485(f)(6)(A) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C 1092(f)(6)(A)). Such statistics do not reflect actual findings of hazing behavior, which are included in the Campus Hazing Transparency Report.

3 OVERVIEW OF H.R. 5646 - STOP CAMPUS HAZING ACT, PUBLIC LAW NO. 118-173 (12/23/2024)

3.1 Summary

[House Resolution 5646](#) (H.R. 5646) requires institutions of higher education (IHEs) participating in federal student aid programs to publicly report incidents of hazing.

Additionally, it renames the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act. Under this law, institutions must disclose in their Annual Security Report (ASR) any hazing incidents reported to campus security authorities or local police. In addition, institutions must include in their ASR: current policies on hazing, reporting procedures for hazing incidents, investigation processes for hazing incidents, applicable hazing laws, and prevention and awareness programming, including a description of prevention efforts. Institutions must develop a Campus Hazing Transparency Report that summarizes the findings for any student organization formally found to have violated campus standards of conduct related to hazing. This report must be updated when such findings occur. If no violations are found, no update is required.

Under Federal Clery Act / 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(1)(F)(i)(II) and (IX), hazing is defined as: any intentional, knowing, or reckless act – whether committed alone or with others – against an individual or individuals, regardless of willingness to participate, that:

- Occurs during initiation into, affiliation with, or maintenance of membership in a student organization (including clubs, athletic teams, fraternities, or sororities); and
- Causes or creates a risk – beyond that normally encountered through participation in the institution or organization – of physical or psychological harm.

The Campus Hazing Transparency Report must be posted prominently on the institution's public website and maintained for five calendar years from the date of publication of each update.

3.2 Terminology

H.R. 5646 utilizes the following terms and definitions:

- Hazing: 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 such other person or persons to participate, that:
 - Is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and

- Causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury.
 - Hazing includes, but is not limited to:
 - Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body.
 - Causing, coercing, or inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics.
 - Causing, coercing, or inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances.
 - Causing, coercing, or inducing another person to perform sexual acts.
 - Any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct.
 - Any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law.
 - 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.
 - Campus Hazing Transparency Report: a report summarizing findings concerning any student organization that is found to be in violation of the institution's standards of conduct relating to hazing. The report includes the name of the student organization, a description of the violation, any findings and sanctions, and relevant dates associated with the investigation and notification process.
 - Student Organization: an organization at an institution of higher education (such as a club, society, association, varsity or junior varsity athletic team, club sports team, fraternity, sorority, band, or student government) in which two or more members are students enrolled at the institution, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by the institution.
 - Annual Security Report (ASR): the federally required annual report published by institutions of higher education, which must include statistics on hazing incidents reported to campus security authorities or local police agencies, along with the

institution's hazing policies, reporting and investigation procedures, and prevention programming.

- Investigation Process: the procedures used by an institution to evaluate and determine whether a hazing violation has occurred, consistent with the institution's conduct policies and applicable laws.
- Sanctions: disciplinary actions imposed by the institution on a student organization found responsible for a hazing violation, which may include probation, suspension, loss of recognition, educational requirements, or other corrective measures deemed appropriate by the institution.
- Prevention and Awareness Programs: research-informed, campus-wide programs designed to reach students, staff, and faculty, with the goal of preventing hazing. These programs include information about hazing policies and laws, bystander intervention training, ethical leadership development, and strategies to build group cohesion without hazing.

4 OVERVIEW OF AB 2193 – HAZING: EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS: PROHIBITIONS AND CIVIL LIABILITY: REPORTS AND RESOURCES (09/27/2024)

4.1 Summary

[California Assembly Bill 2193 \(AB 2193\)](#), known as the Stop Campus Hazing Act (Chapter 704, 2024), expands California's legal framework for preventing hazing in higher education. The law expressly prohibits hazing in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution that receives or benefits from state financial assistance or enrolls students receiving state financial aid.

Per California Penal Code Section 245.6(b), hazing means any method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or student body, whether or not the organization is officially recognized, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury to a student.

Effective January 1, 2026, the bill authorizes a former, current, or prospective student who suffers injury due to hazing to bring a civil action for damages against the educational institution, in addition to individual participants or organizations, if certain criteria are met:



- The institution had direct involvement in the hazing practice, or knew or should have known of the practice and failed to take reasonable steps to prevent it.
- The organization involved was affiliated with the institution at the time of the incident.
- The hazing occurred on or after January 1, 2026.

AB 2193 also provides a rebuttable presumption that an institution has taken reasonable steps to prevent hazing if it has implemented required prevention measures, including:

- Rules and regulations prohibiting hazing, with clear disciplinary policies and anonymous reporting procedures for both students and employees.
- A comprehensive prevention and outreach program addressing hazing awareness, prevention, and bystander intervention, offered as part of student orientation and provided annually to athletic teams and affiliated fraternities and sororities.
- Additionally, AB2193 requires:
 - The Trustees of the California State University (CSU), Regents of the University of California (UC), and certain independent institutions to submit annual reports to the Legislature, beginning June 30, 2026. The report must detail the number of hazing incidents that violated institutional policies and whether the violation was affiliated with a student organization.
 - The California Department of Education to publish model anti-hazing policy and resources for K-12 schools by July 1, 2025, to support professional development and awareness.

The law maintains consistency with existing civil and criminal remedies under Penal Code Section 245.6 and emphasizes that its duties and obligations are cumulative with other applicable laws.

4.2 Terminology

- Affiliated: currently recognized or sanctioned by the educational institution. An organization that had previously been recognized or sanctioned by the

educational institution but has subsequently had that recognition or sanction withdrawn shall not be considered affiliated.

- Educational Institution: a public or private institution of higher education in the State of California, including its officers, employees, or governing bodies acting in their official capacity.
- Hazing: any method of initiation or pre-initiation into an affiliated student organization or student body that the initiator knows or should have known is likely to cause serious bodily injury to any former, current, or prospective student of any school, community college, college, university, or other educational institution in California. Hazing does not include customary athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- Student Organization (any of the following):
 - An intercollegiate athletic program at the institution of higher education.
 - A sorority or fraternity that has officially met the formal chartering and recognition requirements at the institution of higher education where it operates.
 - An organization recognized or sanctioned by the institution of higher education whose membership includes more than 100 students.
- Comprehensive Prevention and Outreach Program: a program addressing hazing awareness, prevention, and bystander intervention, required to be included in new student orientation and provided annually to athletic teams and affiliated sororities and fraternities. The program must inform students about:
 - Hazing awareness, prevention, and the institution's anti-hazing policy.
 - Campus policies and resources related to hazing, including reporting mechanisms and anonymous reporting.
 - Bystander intervention training.

5 CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY HAZING PREVENTION POLICY AND DEFINITION

Policy Statement

Chapman University is committed to fostering experiences, relationships, and environments that are welcoming. Hazing of any kind is antithetical to this goal. Hazing can be abusive, degrading, psychologically damaging, and may be life-threatening. Hazing activities are also against the law.

Chapman strictly prohibits hazing. It is unacceptable in all forms and has no place in the Chapman University community. Student groups, organizations, and athletic teams can be important contributors to a vibrant and positive campus life, but all such groups, including those not formally recognized by the University, are expected to act in accordance with the Student Conduct Code, refrain from hazing, and treat others with respect. Hazing by individuals and hazing of student groups or organizations is prohibited in any form, both on campus and off campus.

Chapman University's Definition:

Hazing includes any method of initiation or pre-initiation into, or condition of continued membership in, any student group, club, body, or organization of any kind ("Organization"), regardless of whether it is officially recognized by the University, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any former, current, or prospective student. To be clear, covered groups include but are not limited to Greek lettered organizations, athletic teams, club sports, governing bodies, societies, departmental student organizations or committees, any other University recognized student organization, any student organization seeking University recognition, or any student organization not recognized or sponsored by the University. Hazing also includes 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 such other 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 institution of higher education or the Organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for the participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury including but not limited to:

- a. Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body, or similar activity;
- b. Causing, coercing, or otherwise, inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;
- c. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
- d. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;
- e. Any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
- f. Any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law;
- g. 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; and
- h. Any prohibited actions, methods, or situations illustrated on [Chapman University's Hazing Prevention Website](#).

Chapman University's Hazing Policy is distinct from and broader than California Penal Code section 245.6, which prohibits: "any method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or student body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury to any former, current, or prospective student of any school, community college, college, university or other educational institution in this state." A violation of Penal Code Section 245.6 that does not result in serious bodily injury is punishable as a misdemeanor, while a violation that results in death or injury is punishable as a felony or a misdemeanor.

Nothing in this Hazing Policy prevents Chapman University from taking institutional action against hazing activity that falls outside the narrower definition of Penal Code Section 245.6 or other applicable law concerning hazing, including, but not limited to the California Stop Campus Hazing Act and the Federal Stop Campus Hazing Act, but falls within other University policies. Additionally, if an incident of hazing involves sexual misconduct, such

incident may also need to be investigated and addressed in accordance with Title IX and state law requirements.

6 REPORTING

Chapman University encourages the reporting of suspected hazing activities. Hazing may be reported in person, by mail, by telephone or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Office of the Senior Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students, or by utilizing the online reporting forms:

Office of the Senior Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students

Argyros Forum 205

Email: dos@chapman.edu

Phone: (714) 997-6721

[Hazing Reporting Form Link](#)

To report hazing activity in progress on campus that involves criminal or other conduct endangering health and safety, please call Public Safety at (714) 997-6763, who will contact 9-1-1 and lead the first responders to the appropriate location.

To report hazing activity in progress off campus that involves criminal or other conduct endangering health and safety, please call 9-1-1.

Reports of hazing will be investigated in accordance with the Student Conduct Code. Individuals found responsible for committing, soliciting, encouraging, directing, aiding, or recklessly permitting hazing to occur will be subject to disciplinary sanctions that could include suspension or expulsion for individuals and permanent loss of recognition for groups.

Information about hazing will be included in the Annual Security Report published by the Department of Public Safety in accordance with the Federal Stop Campus Hazing Act.

Additional support and resources are available to students in Section 8 Resources Available to Students

Chapman University Retaliation Policy – Retaliation is an adverse action taken against anyone for reporting, supporting, or assisting in the reporting and/or adjudication of any of the

behaviors prohibited in the Chapman University Student Conduct Code, the [Student Policy on Sexual Harassment Prohibited by Title IX](#) and/or the [Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment](#), or any other University policy, or against anyone perceived to be involved in any of these actions. Retaliation may include intimidation, violation of a No Contact order, harassment, efforts to impede an investigation, or filing a false or bad-faith cross-complaint.

Retaliation under the Chapman University Student Conduct Code is prohibited by University policy, state, and federal law. Retaliation is a violation of policy regardless of whether the underlying complaint is found to be a violation of policy.

Investigation Process – After a report is received, Chapman University will quickly review the submission and determine the next appropriate actions, including whether to call Public Safety and/or law enforcement. Chapman University will also conduct its own investigation to promptly address alleged hazing and to determine if there are potential violations of the Student Conduct Code and/or any other applicable processes, and to inform preventative training, depending upon the nature of the complaint.

Private and Confidential Reporting – Chapman University will take appropriate steps to respect the privacy of reporters but cannot guarantee confidentiality for hazing reports. The information you provide to a non-confidential resource will be relayed only as necessary to investigate and/or seek a resolution and/or to comply with other appropriate University policies and procedures, and any federal, state and/or local laws, rules and regulations. Chapman University will limit the disclosure to those with a need to know, as determined by the University, even if the University determines that the request for confidentiality cannot be honored.

Offices and officials who are confidential resources will not report to law enforcement or University officials without a complainant/reporting party's permission, except for extreme circumstances, such as a health and/or safety emergency, in compliance with law and policy.

Amnesty Related to Hazing Reports – Chapman University recognizes that students are sometimes reluctant to report hazing activity, due to a fear of potential consequences for their own conduct. For this reason, the University has adopted an amnesty policy which states that a student who acts in good faith to report activity that may fall within the definition of hazing and/or a victim who cooperates fully as a witness in the investigation and disciplinary process

may not be subject to student conduct sanctions related to their own participation in hazing behavior, as determined by the University in its sole discretion.

7 PREVENTION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMMING

Chapman University is committed to fostering a safe environment through prevention and awareness programming. To achieve this goal, we utilize research-informed online educational modules, in-person community-wide trainings, and tailored individual organizational or student training conducted by university personnel. These efforts are designed to educate the campus community on hazing and empower individuals to actively contribute to a culture of awareness, prevention, compliance, and responsibility.

8 APPENDICES

8.1 APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF HAZING VIOLATIONS AND SANCTIONS

In alignment with state and federal law, and to inform all individuals of hazing violations and sanctions that take place on campus, Chapman University publishes and distributes this report.

8.1.1 Omega Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. - Fall 2025

Investigation Dates:

- Incident Date: February 10, 2025
- Report Received: September 17, 2025
- Investigation Initiated: September 19, 2025
- Investigation Concluded: December 3, 2025
- Notice of Findings to the Organization: January 15, 2026

Findings:

- Preponderance of the evidence supported a finding of responsibility for a Student Conduct Code Hazing violation. The organization was found responsible by the Office of Student Conduct and, upon appeal, by the Senior Vice President and Dean of Students.

Description of Conduct:

- Excessive time commitment and expectations placed on new members that impaired well-being and academic responsibilities. New members were directed to provide their phones to active members for collection and monitoring during meetings. New members were expected to stand for long periods and exhibit excessive synchronization of physical movements during meetings. New members were required to wear prescribed clothing and hairstyles at each meeting. New members were required to utilize the same water bottle assigned to them by the organization.

Abuse or Illegal Use of Alcohol: No

Abuse of Illegal Use of Illegal Substances: No

Sanctions:

1. Probation through June 30, 2026.
2. Educational Sanction (complete by February 15, 2027): The Organization will be required to submit a revised New Member Education program and schedule to Chapman University Office of Student Conduct and the Department of Student Engagement. The program must be reviewed and approved before the Organization is able to participate in the next eligible recruitment period.
3. Facilitate a Program (Complete by February 16, 2026): The Organization will be required to hold an educational program on hazing prevention with a minimum attendance of 90% by February 16, 2026. The facilitator must be approved by the Office of Student Engagement and the Office of Student Conduct.
4. Facilitate a Program (Complete by February 15, 2027): The Organization must hold an educational program with a minimum attendance of 90% of all active members on a pre-approved theme. The Office of Student Engagement and the Office of Student Conduct will choose the theme. The Organization must hold this event within one month before the next eligible recruitment period.
5. The Organization must abide by any directives assigned by Omega Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, headquarters during this period and beyond.