

Hazing Policy

Hagerstown Community College is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for students and is therefore adopting a Hazing Policy effective October 1, 2018. In consideration of hazing incidents, college administration shall offer anti-hazing awareness and educational programming that encourages individuals to immediately report hazing behaviors to appropriate College officials.

The Hazing Policy applies to acts that take place in all Hagerstown Community College facilities and at on-campus and off-campus events that are sponsored by Hagerstown Community College. Hazing behaviors of any sort do not reflect the values and mission of Hagerstown Community College and are an expressed violation of the Code of Student Conduct. The College administration shall provide students with educational programming on hazing, including information on hazing awareness, information on hazing prevention and Hagerstown Community College's policy on Hazing. The programming and awareness will take place via Hagerstown Community College's new student orientation programs and, as available, during meetings with specific student groups or organizations. The College administration shall encourage prompt reporting and investigation of reported incidents, within the established guidelines of the Code of Student Conduct.

The College administration will report before June 1 each year to the Maryland Higher Education Commission the number of hazing incidents reported at Hagerstown Community College in the prior academic year and the outcomes of the incidents.

Definitions: "Hazing" means an act that is prohibited under Section 3-607 of the Criminal Law Article, and includes the following:

- A person may not recklessly or intentionally do an act or create a situation that subjects a student to the risk of serious bodily injury and/or that may negatively impact a student's physical or psychological well-being, for the purpose of an initiation into a student organization and/or group of a college.
- The implied or expressed consent of a student to hazing is not a defense of hazing activity.

A Hagerstown Community College student who violates Section 3-607 of the Criminal Law Article will be subjected to on campus disciplinary review as well as off-campus review; individuals may be found guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction subject to imprisonment not exceeding 6 months or a fine not exceeding \$500 or both.