**Number: SS-415**

**Policy Number (if applicable):**

**Office of Primary Responsibility: Vice President, Student Affairs & Campus Relations**

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**Effective Date: August 16, 2021**

**Purpose**

At Hocking College, members of the community are expected to uphold and abide by certain standards of conduct that form the basis of the Student Code of Conduct and all other published rules, regulations and policies.

These standards are embodied by a set of core values that include *Respect, Community, Integrity, and Responsibility*. All members of the campus community bear responsibility for their conduct. Hocking College is committed to the academic success of students and recognizes that participation in extracurricular activities may significantly enhance the learning and growth experiences of students. In accordance with state and federal laws, Hocking College shall prohibit any form of hazing associated with these activities. All student activities, including, but not limited to, student organization membership orientation and initiation, shall be expected to be lawful in their purpose and intention. Further, these activities shall support attainment of all purposes stated in the respective student organizations’ constitutions.

**Definitions**

*Hazing*: As set forth in Ohio Revised Code section 2903.31, “hazing” means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. [Effective through Oct. 6, 2021].

*Hazing* [Effective as of Oct. 7, 2021]: As set forth in Ohio Revised Code section 2903.31, as amended, “hazing” means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization or any actto continue or reinstate membership in or affiliation with any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person, including coercing another to consume alcohol or a drug of abuse, as defined in section 3719.011 of the Revised Code.

**Reporting Procedure**

Reporting an Incident: Campus safety is our top priority and we take all reports of misconduct seriously to protect everyone’s health and well-being. Hocking College depends on community members to identify and report behaviors of concern so that the College can provide distressed students and employees with appropriate support services and resources. We are all responsible for campus safety. If you see any concerning behavior or suspicious behavior report it at [www.hocking.edu/report-it](file:///C:\Users\smithe39668\Downloads\www.hocking.edu\report-it)

Anonymous complaints:

Hocking College is committed to reviewing all reports of hazing. Anonymous reports are accepted; however, the college's ability to obtain additional information may be compromised and the ability to investigate anonymous reports may be limited.

Rights of the reporting party:

In order to encourage reporting of alleged hazing, the reporting party will not face conduct referrals for action under the Student Code of Conduct with respect to his or her own unlawful or prohibited use of alcohol or drugs during the incident when the alleged hazing occurred. Further, if the reporting party is found to have violated the Student Code of Conduct with respect to hazing, then the act of reporting will be taken as a mitigating factor during the selection of sanction.

Investigation process:

The Office of Student Affairs and Services shall coordinate the investigation of all hazing allegations. When appropriate, other college offices may handle certain aspects of the college response (e.g., Human Resources, Hocking College Police Dept.).

Additionally, the Office of Student Affairs and Services will assess the need for interim measures (e.g., suspension of current group activities). Every effort will be taken to complete the investigation in a timely manner. The hazing allegation will be investigated and resolved in keeping with the Student Code of Conduct process. At the point when a formal conduct charge is made against an organization, the national or oversight organization, if any, shall be notified. Criminal investigations resulting from a report to law enforcement will be handled by the appropriate law enforcement agency.

**Follow Up and Sanctions**

Hocking College may charge an individual or a group with a violation of this Hazing Policy via the Student Code of Conduct and/or other college rules, regulations or policies.

Sanctions applied to organizations and/or individuals will be imposed in accordance with the severity of the violation and will be determined by the Office of Student Affairs and Services.

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

Restorative action, which may include restitution for damages, community service, or an educational assignment.

Student Organization/team probation, which may result in the loss of privileges such as hosting events and/or institutional support.

Student probation, the duration of which will be determined on a case by case basis. During this period of time, any further violation of a Hocking College policy will jeopardize the student’s housing privileges.

Modification, suspension, or loss of College privileges.

Suspension, dismissal, or expulsion from the College.