

Swarthmore College Hazing Biannual Report August 2025

Swarthmore College prohibits any form of hazing, whether the activities occur on or off property owned or operated by the College. Additionally, the College supports and enforces the [Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Timothy J. Piazza Anti-hazing Law, Act 80 of 2018](#). Failure to notify the College of an incident of hazing may be a violation of this policy.

Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any behavior and/or acts of servitude that is designed or intended to humiliate, degrade, embarrass, harass, or ridicule an individual, or that which a reasonable person would deem harmful or potentially harmful to an individual's physical, emotional, or psychological well-being, as an actual or perceived condition of new or continued affiliation with any organization, and/or team. Hazing also includes knowingly or recklessly engaging in such behavior and/or acts.

Engagement in any of these behaviors, regardless of the intent to cause harm or the willingness of an individual to participate in such activity, for the purpose of initiation, admission, or continued affiliation and/or membership, is a violation of this policy.

Examples of such behaviors include but are not limited to:

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- Brutality of a physical nature
 - Exposure to environmental elements, without appropriate protections
 - Assigning demerits and/or deprivation of privileges granted to other members
 - Whipping, Beating, Paddling or other forms of assault
 - Forced/coerced consumption of any food or drink
 - Asking members to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire
 - Branding, burning, or other forms of physical mutilation
 - Forced/coerced consumption of alcohol or liquor
 - Activities with degrading, crude, or humiliating acts

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts of servitude: (ex. carrying books, errands, cooking, cleaning, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forced/coerced consumption of drugs or other substance abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expecting members to deprive themselves of a normal level of cleanliness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forced calisthenics or exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name calling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal abuse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deception 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sleep deprivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual simulations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abductions/kidnaps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public nudity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threats or implied threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expecting illegal activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bondage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social isolation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expecting specific items to always be in one's possession 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lineups or other forms of drills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests on meaningless information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigning members demeaning terms or labels, while requiring other members to be identified with titles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water intoxication 	

As required by the [Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Timothy J. Piazza Anti-hazing Law, Act 80 of 2018](#), twice a year (January 1, and August 1) the College will provide the College community with a report that includes information about charges that have been filed by the College and/or the State over the prior five (5) consecutive year period.

This report will not include the personal identifying information of any individual and will reflect reported incidents of hazing to the extent that the institution has retained information about these violation(s).

Total & Type of Reports of Hazing from 2020 – 2025 by year:					
2020					
No Reports					
2021					
No Reports					
2022					
No Reports					
2023					
No Reports					
2024					
No. of Reports	Report Date	Behavior	Response	Outcome	Resolution Date
#1	07/31/2024	A report alleged that a student athletic team engaged in the <i>Asking Members to Wear Embarrassing or Humiliating Attire, Taking Personal Items Including Mattresses from Members rooms, and/or Activities with Degrading, Crude, or Humiliating Acts.</i>	Formal Adjudication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsible: <i>Hazing</i> policy 	Athletic team was placed on Probation for the Fall 2024 semester. Team was required to develop a “traditions” proposal for the 2024-2025 academic year, developed by members from all four class-years and must address how team “traditions” will be modified to be in compliance with anti-hazing regulations.	08/30/2024
2025					
No Reports					

Pennsylvania Criminal Charges: There were no hazing charges filed by the State against any organization or individual associated with Swarthmore College during the prior five (5) consecutive year period.

Students are strongly urged to read the entire criminal statute in order to have a full understanding of the legal standards, penalties and the terms of the limited safe harbor provision allowed by the State ([The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Timothy J. Piazza Anti-hazing Law](#)).

To report an incident of hazing please click [here](#).