

# RENTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE POLICY & PROCEDURE

CHAPTER	SECTION	TITLE	HISTORY
8	10	<b>Anti-Hazing Policy</b>	<b>Adopted: 10/2010</b> <b>Revised: 7/2022</b> <b>Reviewed:</b> <b>Sponsor: J. Gilmore English/L. Hogan</b>

**POLICY:**

**Purpose:**

Renton Technical College (herein after named as “College”) is committed to and maintains an atmosphere of social and ethical responsibility. It is the College's belief that learning and working occurs in environments where learners, employees, and visitors feel safe, secure, and welcome. The College regards responsible pre-initiation activity or extra- and co-curricular activities as a positive educational approach to preparation for student group or organization membership and affiliation, who maintain different purposes and process. These purposes and process may have traditions and the College supports traditions that match the College’s core values. The College further recognizes that a student organization or group may belong to a national oversight organization that also holds students accountable to expectations and standards (e.g., the national organization for a local fraternity chapter). The College is committed to partnering with these outside affiliates to address hazing allegations and will communicate with them as appropriate.

**Definitions:**

**Organization:** An organization consists of several persons who are associated with each other and have registered with the College as a student organization (such as clubs, club sports, or fraternities and sororities).

**Group:** A group consists of a number of persons who are associated with the College and each other, but who have not registered, or are not required to register, as a student organization (including but not limited to athletic teams, musical or theatrical ensembles, academic or administrative units, and clubs not registered as student organizations).

**College Community:** Faculty, staff, learners, volunteers (e.g., club advisors and other volunteers), organizations, groups, alumni, and consultants involved in activities sponsored by chartered or un-chartered college groups or organizations who hold events on- or off-campus.

**Chartered -** A group or organization who completes a registration form and receives recognition from the College’s Associated Student Government Executive Body assigned to charter groups, clubs, or organizations, or similarly responsible college department.

**Unchartered -** A group or organization with involved college community members who gather to sponsor an activity or event who has not sought recognition from a College’s

Associated Student Government or similarly responsible college department.

Faculty, staff, learners, volunteers (e.g., club advisors and other volunteers), organizations, groups, alumni, and consultants are members of the "College community" for purposes of this policy. This policy addresses hazing activity by any party, regardless of the existence of consent, and recognizes the act of hazing as illegal, irresponsible, intolerable, and inconsistent with the principles of higher education and basic human development. Hazing is antithetical to this College's commitment to maintaining a positive educational environment. Participation in hazing activities is against the law. This policy applies to hazing that takes place between two or more people who are affiliated with the college regardless of whether it occurs at sanctioned or non-sanctioned events, on- or off-campus.

This policy applies to student organizations, student groups, and individual students and is effective from enrollment to commencement, including breaks in the academic year.

Violation of the stated hazing policy may subject participants, including students and organizations, to arrest, prosecution and/or disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion of students and the revocation of an organization's registration and/or recognition at the college. Consent to or acquiescence in hazing activity is not a defense.

If college community members are asked to take part in hazing activities, or if they are uncomfortable with the instructions given as a new member, they have the right to say no. If the organization engages in behaviors that college community members believe are hazing, they do not have to participate or support such activities and need to report them.

The College holds students accountable for their behavior both on and off-campus and addresses behavior that is a violation of the "Student Code of Conduct."

The group or organization, regardless of chartered status, has the responsibility to ensure its activities are acceptable under this policy. Questions regarding the acceptability of a proposed organization activity should be discussed with the identified college office.

College community members have a duty to report violations of this policy of which they become aware in the course of their duties when these duties include responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of other members of campus community or if they have supervisory, evaluative, grading, or advisory responsibility over other members of the campus community.

### **Resources**

Please visit the following sites for the latest news on hazing, up to date resources on hazing prevention and alternative activities for groups.

<http://www.stophazing.org/>

<http://www.hazingprevention.org/>

[RCW 28B.10.900](#)