

Toccoa Falls College
Campus Hazing Transparency Report and Hazing Policies
Update 12/18/2025

The Stop Campus Hazing Act (SCHA), enacted on December 23, 2024, amends the Clery Act to prioritize the prevention of and transparency about hazing incidents at colleges and universities. The Clery Act and the United States Department of Education's regulations require Title IV participating institutions to publish an annual security report containing safety and security related policy statements and crime statistics and distribute it to all current students and employees. The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, codified at 20 USC 1092 (f) as a part of the Higher Education Act of 1965, is a federal law that requires colleges and universities to disclose certain timely and annual information about campus crime and security policies.

Included in this report you will find the policies and prevention efforts of Toccoa Falls College regarding hazing. The Hazing policy is published through the Student Handbook and is located publicly on tfc.edu. Additionally, a campus Hazing Transparency Report is available at the end of this document that logs incidents related to hazing.

Hazing Policy

Toccoa Falls College does not condone hazing in any form. Hazing is any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person against a student (regardless of that student's willingness to participate), that (1) is connected with an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, an organization (e.g., a club, athletic team, fraternity, or sorority); and (2) causes or is likely to contribute to a substantial risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization, of physical injury, mental harm, or degradation. Hazing is prohibited, and consent and/or acquiescence by a student or students subjected to hazing is not a reasonable defense in a conduct proceeding.

Hazing includes, but is not limited to:

1. Any type of physical brutality, such as whipping, beating, using a harmful substance on the body or similar activity.
2. Any type of physical activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of a student, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, or calisthenics.
3. Any activity involving consumption of a food, liquid, alcoholic beverage, liquor, drug or other substance which subjects a student to an unreasonable risk of harm or which adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of a student.
4. Any activity that intimidates or threatens a student with ostracism, that subjects a student to extreme mental stress, shame or humiliation, adversely affects the mental health or dignity of a student, or discourages a student from entering or remaining enrolled at the College, or may reasonably be expected to cause a student to leave the organization or the College rather than submit to acts described above.
5. Any activity involving nudity or forcing students to dress in a degrading manner.
6. Any activity in which a person solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing; intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly permits hazing to occur; has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident which has occurred and knowingly fails to report the incident to Housing and Residence Life.
7. Any activity in which hazing is either condoned or encouraged or any action by an officer or combination of members, pledges, associates or alumni of the organization of committing or assisting in the commission of hazing.

All student initiation activities are subject to the approval of the Director of Student Engagement (for student organizations), the Athletics Director (for intercollegiate teams) or the Director of Residence Life (for residence life groups). Student organizations, athletic teams, and residence life groups are responsible for any activity in violation

of this policy by any individual or group affiliated with the organization, unless it is proven that the group or individual activity was independent of, and occurred without the knowledge or consent of, the recognized organization, team, or residence life group.

Concerns of hazing should be reported via the “Campus Incident Report” form (located on my.tfc.edu under Student Affairs > Reports and Complaints), where the complainant can specify the incident as Hazing. Individuals without access to my.tfc.edu that have concerns about hazing can contact the Office of Student Affairs via studentaffairs@tfc.edu.

In accordance with student disciplinary procedures from the Student Handbook, the Associate Vice President or Vice President of Student Affairs will review hazing concerns and complaints. They will conduct investigations and if warranted, administrative hearings of alleged violations of this policy. With findings of responsibility, violations of this policy may result in sanctions for the students involved as well as the entire student organization, athletic team, or residence life group. The severity of the sanctions for a hazing offense will be determined in proportion to the hazing activity.

This policy and a Campus Hazing Transparency Report is posted and available to the public on tfc.edu. Campus Employees have required annual Hazing Policy, Procedure, and Prevention training.

NOTE: See State of Georgia current hazing law (G.S. 16-5-61) at <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2022/title-16/chapter-5/article-4/section-16-5-61/#:~:text=It%20shall%20be%20unlawful%20for,a%20high%20and%20aggravated%20nature>

Hazing Prevention Efforts

Toccoa Falls College seeks to provide resources for hazing prevention to its students, faculty, staff, and administration. Student resource links are made available publicly within the Student Handbook, which is published on tfc.edu. The resource list for 2025-2026 include but is not limited to:

- The **Skorton Center for Health Initiatives at Cornell Health** has developed a bystander intervention video called *Intervene* © 2016, available for free at <https://vimeo.com/183541312>
- **Stop Hazing** published a great *Joining a club, team, or organization? Questions to Ask!* – Infographic which gives practical applications for students joining a new group at <https://stophazing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Joining-a-club-team-organization-Questions-to-Ask-Resource.pdf>
- Find more free resources through **The Clery Center** at <https://clery.memberclicks.net/hazing>

Employee prevention efforts include a notice from the Vice President for Student Affairs that explains the college’s stance on hazing. An additional training regarding Hazing policies, procedures, and prevention for employees has been added to our established virtual training system, Vector Solutions. Within this training, there is an introduction of practical behaviors to identify as hazing, to assist our employees on preventing and reporting hazing incidents.

There are additional passing programming efforts regarding hazing prevention and awareness made throughout the academic year, which utilize infographics to engage the community with information about hazing, our policies, and prevention/bystander intervention. These are initiated by the Office of Student Affairs.

