



at the heart of campus safety

STOP CAMPUS HAZING ACT

GETTING STARTED GUIDE

The Stop Campus Hazing Act (SCHA), enacted on December 23, 2024, amends the Clery Act¹ to prioritize the prevention of and transparency about hazing incidents at colleges and universities. This guide provides information on what SCHA requires and how institutions can put these required practices in place.

I. Reporting Hazing in the Annual Security Report

By October 1 of each year, colleges and universities must release their annual security reports (ASRs), which provide information on key campus safety policies and procedures, as well as campus crime statistics for specific incidents reported under the Clery Act. SCHA requires institutions to report Clery Act crime statistics for hazing incidents for the previous three calendar years.

How is hazing defined for Clery Act reporting?

“The term ‘hazing’, for purposes of reporting statistics on hazing incidents...means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that:

- is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and
- causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury including—
 - ◊ whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone’s body, or similar activity;
 - ◊ causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;
 - ◊ causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
 - ◊ causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;
 - ◊ any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
 - ◊ any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law; and
 - ◊ any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law.”
- **A student organization** is defined as “an organization at an institution of higher education (such as a club, society, association, varsity or junior varsity athletic team, club sports team, fraternity, sorority, band, or student government) in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at the institution of higher education, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by the institution”.

¹[The Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act, 20 U.S.C § 1092\(f\) \(2024\)](#)

When would an incident of hazing be included in the ASR?

Clery Act crime statistics within the ASR represent reports of Clery Act crimes occurring within Clery Act defined geography made to campus security authorities (CSAs)², as defined by the Clery Act, or to local police agencies. CSAs include campus police and security, individuals with a security function on campus, individuals directed to receive reports under the institution's campus security policies, and officials with significant responsibility for student and campus activities.

The ASR crime statistics are reported by type of crime (in this case hazing incidents) and according to specific Clery Act defined geography³:

- On-campus buildings and property;
 - ◊ Including on-campus student housing facilities if such facilities exist at an institution
- Public property; and
- Noncampus buildings and property.

As a result, hazing incidents will be included in the ASR:

- When reported by a CSA or to local police agencies;
- The incident occurred within Clery Act geography; and
- The incident meets the Clery Act definition of hazing.

They must be compiled per each single hazing incident and if the same person or persons commit more than one hazing act and the time and place intervals separating such acts are insignificant, such acts shall be reported as a single hazing incident. For example, if a particular athletic team commits multiple acts of hazing within a single evening, that will be reflected as one incident of hazing; however, if the same team commits another hazing incident the following weekend, it will be reported as a separate hazing statistic.

All Clery Act crimes that occur within Clery geography must be analyzed to determine whether there is a serious or ongoing threat which would require the issuance of a timely warning; therefore the inclusion of hazing as a Clery Act incident in the ASR will also affect timely warning practices. Similarly, note that, as has already been a standard for the Clery Act, the daily crime log should include reports of any state or local crimes made to the campus public safety or police department that occurred within the institution's patrol jurisdiction which includes Clery Act geography. Therefore, if an incident of hazing is a crime in the institution's state and it is reported to campus police or public safety and occurred within the institution's patrol jurisdiction, it should be included in the institution's daily crime log.

Implementation Steps:

- Review list of recognized student organizations. Discuss recognized student organizations as well as unrecognized student organizations known to the institution with an existing Clery Act team or committee if it exists.
- Update systems or structures used to collect crime reports from CSAs and local law enforcement (such as reporting forms and platforms) to include incidents of hazing.
- Revise data reconciliation processes to include analysis of hazing incidents.
- Update CSA notification and training materials to include incidents of hazing. Consider providing case studies specific to hazing incidents.
- Update timely warning policies, protocols, and forms to include hazing within institutional timely warning analyses.

²34 CFR 668.46(a). (<https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2014-24284/p-423>)

³34 CFR 668.46(a). (<https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2014-24284/p-427>)

II. Hazing Policy Statements in the Annual Security Report

The ASR must also include a statement of the institution's current policies related to hazing as defined by the institution. A policy statement is a summary of an existing policy; therefore, the institution's underlying policy as well as the policy statement in the ASR must address all the required components. The institution's hazing policy definitions may or may not use the Clery Act definition of hazing.

In addition to defining hazing, the policy statement must include:

- How to report incidents of hazing;
- The process used to investigate incidents of hazing; and
- Information on applicable local, State, and Tribal laws on hazing.

It must also include a statement of policy regarding prevention and awareness programs related to hazing that includes a description of research-informed campus-wide prevention programs designed to reach students, staff, and faculty, which includes:

- Information on the institution's hazing policy (as described above)
- Primary prevention strategies intended to stop hazing before hazing occurs, which may include skill building for bystander intervention, information about ethical leadership, and the promotion of strategies for building group cohesion without hazing.

Implementation Steps:

- Develop or revise hazing policies on campus.
- Ensure the policy includes a definition of hazing, how to report incidents of hazing, and the process used to investigate incidents of hazing.
- Include information on applicable local, State, and Tribal laws on hazing. Distinguish between definitions that are a violation of policy versus those used in legal proceedings.
- Incorporate into existing hazing policy information regarding hazing prevention or develop a separate hazing prevention policy.
- Ensure the policy includes education on the institution's hazing policy or policies as well as primary prevention strategies intended to stop hazing before it occurs.
- Identify what prevention programs will be used for primary prevention of hazing.
- Establish a programming schedule for students, staff, and faculty.

III. Campus Hazing Transparency Report

Each institution must develop a Campus Hazing Transparency Report summarizing findings concerning any established or recognized student organization found to be in violation of an institution's standards of conduct relating to hazing as defined by the institution in their hazing policies.

The Campus Hazing Transparency Report must include each incident involving a student organization for which a finding of responsibility is issued relating to a hazing violation, including:

- The name of such student organization;
- A general description of the violation that resulted in a finding of responsibility, including:
 - ◊ whether the violation involved the abuse or illegal use of alcohol or drugs,
 - ◊ the findings of the institution, and
 - ◊ any sanctions placed on the student organization by the institution, as applicable; and
- The dates on which:
 - ◊ The incident was alleged to have occurred
 - ◊ The investigation into the incident was initiated
 - ◊ The investigation ended with a finding that a hazing violation occurred, and
 - ◊ The institution provided notice to the student organization that the incident resulted in a hazing violation.
- The Campus Hazing Transparency report cannot include personally identifiable information.

The first Campus Hazing Transparency Report must be released by December 23, 2025, and should include data from July 1, 2025 through its date of release. After that, the Campus Hazing Transparency Report must be updated **biannually (at least 2 times a year)**, from the date on which the report was last published and ending on the date on which such update is submitted. For example, if Clery University publishes its first Transparency Report on December 1, 2025 and commits to publishing it every six months to meet its biannual publication requirement, then the December 1st report would include findings of responsibility for hazing incidents by recognized student organizations determined between July 1, 2025 and December 1, 2025. When the May 1, 2026 report is published, it will include findings from December 1, 2025–date of the updated report (which could be as late as April 30, 2026).

Some institutions are in states that require additional hazing reporting under state law. SCHA states that the Campus Hazing Transparency Report may include in the report any additional information determined by the institution to be necessary or reported as required by State law. This also means you could add in additional information you think your community would find valuable, as long as you're also addressing the minimum requirements.

Implementation Steps:

- Identify the department responsible for publishing the Campus Hazing Transparency Report. Provide training or other education on the requirements.
- Determine whether the institution's records management system used for student and employee conduct has the ability to document the required information.
- Determine process for sharing required information under the Campus Hazing Transparency Report.
 - ◊ Is there a way to export the required information from the existing records management system?
 - ◊ If not, create a template for logging the required information.
 - ◊ Establish procedures for updating the Campus Hazing Transparency Report at least two times annually. Consider whether it is easier/possible to update the report every time there is an addition (every time there is a finding of responsibility for hazing).

The information for the Transparency Report must be maintained for a period of five calendar years from the date of publication of the most recent update; however, since the Clery Act requires institutions to retain their records supporting information in the ASR for seven years, we recommend retaining all data related to Clery Act reporting for seven calendar years.

The bill notes that institutions may want to educate the community on the purposes of, and differences between, the ASR and the Campus Hazing Transparency Report. Although the bill does not require institutions to make an update to the Transparency Report if there are no findings of a hazing violation since its most recent publication, it is helpful to still include language such as “*There were no findings of responsibility for hazing violations between xx/xx/xxxx and xx/xx/xxxx*” so the campus community is aware the institution is complying with the requirements but does not have any new information to share.

IV. Notification of and Education on Stop Campus Hazing Act Requirements

On each institution’s public website, there must be a statement notifying the public of the annual availability of their hazing statistics, including a link to the institution’s ASR, information about the institution’s policies relating to hazing and applicable local, State, and Tribal laws on hazing, and the information required for the Campus Hazing Transparency Report.

V. Implementation Timelines

Below are timelines to adhere to when first implementing the Stop Campus Hazing Act requirements based on the law’s date of enactment of December 23, 2024:

January 1, 2025	Institutions must begin to collect statistics on hazing incidents
June 23, 2025	Hazing policies (including prevention policies) must be in place
July 1, 2025	Institutions must start collecting information with respect to hazing incidents/violations
December 23, 2025	The Campus Hazing Transparency Report must be publicly available on the website of the institution (must be updated at least 2 times each year)
October 1, 2026	First ASR with hazing data

The implementation of the Stop Campus Hazing Act (SCHA) marks a significant step forward in addressing the persistent issue of hazing within higher education institutions. By mandating the collection and reporting of hazing incidents, as well as the creation of clear, transparent policies, this law ensures that colleges and universities are taking proactive measures to protect students and promote safe, respectful campus environments.

As institutions work to integrate these requirements into their operations, it is essential to foster collaboration across departments to ensure that the provisions of the SCHA are effectively enacted. Transparency and accountability are critical to preventing hazing, and by adhering to these guidelines, colleges and universities can create a culture of respect and inclusion while fulfilling their legal obligations.

By taking the necessary steps outlined in this guide, institutions will not only comply with the law but also contribute to a larger, shared effort to eradicate hazing and ensure that all students are treated with dignity and respect. The commitment to prevention, reporting, and accountability is vital for safeguarding the well-being of students and for building campuses where safety and integrity are prioritized.