



Huston-Tillotson University
Campus Hazing Transparency Report
In Compliance with the Stop Campus Hazing Act (SCHA)
Reporting Period: July 1, 2025 – December 1, 2025

Prepared by:
Division of Student Affairs
Huston-Tillotson University
Austin, Texas

I. Purpose and Legal Authority

This Campus Hazing Transparency Report is published in compliance with the **Stop Campus Hazing Act (SCHA)**, enacted on December 23, 2024, which amended the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act to enhance transparency and accountability related to hazing incidents involving student organizations.

This report summarizes:

- Hazing data involving recognized or established student organizations
- Huston-Tillotson University's hazing policies
- Prevention, education, and awareness efforts
- Findings of responsibility, if any

II. Institutional Statement on Hazing

Huston-Tillotson University maintains a **zero-tolerance policy** for hazing. Hazing is fundamentally incompatible with the University's mission, values, and commitment to student safety, dignity, and leadership development.

Hazing is prohibited regardless of:

- Intent
- Willingness or consent of participants
- Whether the activity occurs on or off campus
- Whether the organization is recognized or unrecognized

III. Definition of Hazing

For institutional policy and reporting purposes, Huston-Tillotson University defines hazing as:

Any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by an individual or group against another person for the purpose of initiation into, affiliation with, or continued membership in a student organization, that causes or creates a risk of physical or psychological harm.

This definition aligns with the **Stop Campus Hazing Act** and includes, but is not limited to:

- Physical abuse or forced physical activity
- Sleep deprivation or exposure to extreme conditions
- Forced consumption of food, alcohol, drugs, or other substances
- Verbal abuse, threats, intimidation, or humiliation
- Acts that violate local, state, or federal law
- Consent is not a defense to hazing.

Student Code of Conduct – Hazing Policy Reference

Hazing is expressly prohibited under the **Huston-Tillotson University Student Code of Conduct**. The Code of Conduct establishes behavioral expectations for all students and student organizations and provides the framework for addressing hazing-related violations.

Under the Student Code of Conduct, hazing includes any action or situation that intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health of a student for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any organization. This prohibition applies regardless of a student's willingness to participate.

The Student Code of Conduct further affirms that:

- Hazing may occur on or off campus
- Consent is not a defense to hazing
- Both individuals and organizations may be held accountable
- Failure to report known hazing activity may result in disciplinary action

Violations of the hazing policy may result in institutional sanctions including, but not limited to:

- Educational sanctions
- Disciplinary probation
- Suspension or expulsion for individuals
- Loss of privileges, suspension, or revocation of recognition for organizations

The full hazing policy and related conduct procedures are published in the **Huston-Tillotson University Student Handbook**, available on the University's website.

IV. Hazing Incident Data

Findings of Responsibility

Reporting Period: July 1, 2025 – December 1, 2025

- **Total student organizations found responsible for hazing: 0**
- **Total hazing violations with findings of responsibility: 0**

There were **no findings of responsibility for hazing violations** involving any recognized or established student organizations during this reporting period.

This statement is included in accordance with SCHA guidance to affirm institutional compliance despite the absence of reportable incidents.

V. Required Incident Disclosure Table

Per SCH A requirements, the following information is disclosed **only when a finding of responsibility exists**. As no hazing violations were established, there are no reportable entries.

Required Disclosure Element	Status
Name of student organization	N/A
Description of violation	N/A
Alcohol or drug involvement	N/A
Institutional findings	N/A
Sanctions imposed	N/A
Date incident allegedly occurred	N/A
Date investigation initiated	N/A
Date investigation concluded	N/A
Date organization was notified	N/A

VI. Reporting Hazing Concerns

Huston-Tillotson University encourages the reporting of all suspected hazing activity.

Reports may be made to:

- **Office of the Dean of Students**
- **Office of Campus Life**
- **Campus Security / University Police**
- **Designated Campus Security Authorities (CSAs)**

All reports are reviewed promptly and handled in accordance with University conduct procedures and due process standards.

VII. Investigation and Adjudication Process

When a hazing allegation is received:

1. The University initiates a prompt review
2. An investigation is conducted by trained staff
3. Interim safety measures may be implemented when necessary
4. Findings are issued using the preponderance of evidence standard
5. Sanctions are applied if violations are confirmed

Possible sanctions include educational interventions, probation, loss of privileges, suspension, or revocation of organizational recognition.

VIII. Hazing Prevention, Education, and Awareness Programs

Huston-Tillotson University is committed to the **primary prevention of hazing** through structured education, leadership development, and intentional partnerships. These efforts promote ethical leadership, healthy group dynamics, and accountability among student organizations.

HT Certification Program

All Greek-letter organizations and recognized student organizations participating in membership intake or ongoing operations are required to complete **HT Certification** prior to engaging in organizational activities.

As part of HT Certification, organizations must complete the following required trainings:

- **Micro Leadership Course**
Focuses on ethical decision-making, leadership accountability, organizational values, and healthy initiation practices.
- **Advanced Conflict Resolution**
Provides tools to navigate interpersonal conflict, address power dynamics, and resolve disputes without coercion or harm.
- **Managing Teams Effectively**
Emphasizes positive team-building strategies, communication skills, role clarity, and fostering cohesion without hazing.

Completion of these courses is mandatory and tracked as part of organizational compliance.

Mental Health & Wellness Partnership Programming

Huston-Tillotson University has partnered with the **Mental Health Counseling Center** to provide workshops addressing mental health, emotional wellness, and the psychological impacts of hazing.

Each Greek organization is required to partner with the Counseling Center to participate in at least one workshop annually. Topics may include:

- Mental health awareness and stigma reduction
- Stress management and coping strategies
- Trauma-informed leadership
- Healthy relationships and communication
- Recognizing warning signs of hazing-related harm

This partnership reinforces the University's commitment to student well-being and holistic prevention.

Additional Prevention Strategies

Additional hazing prevention efforts include:

- Anti-hazing education during New Student Orientation
- Leadership development workshops for student leaders and advisors
- Ongoing intake oversight and organizational monitoring
- National Hazing Prevention Week programming
- Advisor and alumni engagement in prevention education

These research-informed strategies are designed to stop hazing **before it occurs** and promote a culture of respect, responsibility, and care.

IX. Applicable Law

Hazing may also violate **Texas state law** and applicable federal statutes. Conduct that constitutes hazing may result in:

- Institutional disciplinary action
- Criminal prosecution under state law

The University distinguishes between policy violations and legal definitions while cooperating fully with law enforcement when required.

X. Record Retention and Report Updates

This Campus Hazing Transparency Report:

- Is updated **at least twice annually**
- Is maintained for a minimum of **five calendar years**
- Is coordinated through the **Division of Student Affairs**

XI. Contact for Hazing Prevention & HT Certification

For questions regarding hazing prevention programs, HT Certification, or compliance requirements, please contact:

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Huston-Tillotson University

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About HT

Huston-Tillotson University, located in the heart of East Austin on a 23-acre, tree-lined campus, has the proud distinction of being Austin's first institution of higher education. On February 28, 2005, Huston-Tillotson College became Huston-Tillotson University and started another chapter in its continuing legacy. With an enrollment of approximately 1,000 students, mostly of whom are African-American, HT is home to students from various racial ethnic and religious backgrounds, thereby fostering a diverse and inclusive campus community.

Since 1875, the sons and daughters of HT have made a dramatic difference in the quality of life for the communities and individuals they touch. Huston-Tillotson is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to offer associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees. As such, more than 2,000 of the University's graduates currently live and work in the Austin metropolitan area, thereby contributing to the greater Austin community, the economic growth and development of Central Texas, and the global society.