

Nicholls State University
ALCOHOL AND DRUG STATEMENT
HAZING STATEMENT
2007 – 2008

Nicholls State University strives to create an environment which promotes and reinforces healthy, responsible living within the context of its educational mission.

The purpose and philosophy of Nicholls State University is the belief that educational achievement is possible only in an atmosphere of social and moral responsibility. Furthermore, The University is committed to the safety and well being of each and every student as well as the campus community as a whole. Intellectual, emotional, physical, social and other forms of development have their greatest growth when the individual is free from the inappropriate use of mind-altering substances and the threat of humiliation. Hazing and substance abuse are inconsistent with the goals of the University and responsibilities of student organizations to conduct safe, constructive student education and activities. Therefore, the University is opposed to the use and abuse of alcohol and any other drug for any purpose other than legitimate use as well as opposed to any and all actions that constitute hazing. In accordance with this philosophy and in an attempt to eliminate harmful practices, policies specific to both substance use and hazing have been adopted. The University practices **“zero tolerance”** regarding any and all violations of these policies. These policies are to be followed by all students and student organizations including but not limited to the Greek organization, clubs, performing groups, athletic teams, etc.

The seriousness of the topic necessitates the distribution of relevant information concerning alcohol abuse, substance abuse, and hazing. Every student and employee of the University plays an important role in helping to maintain a safe, healthy learning and living environment. Students are expected to respect themselves, others and the University community and be healthy role models by avoiding violations of the alcohol and drug and hazing policies and by making healthy, responsible choices regarding alcohol and drug use.

University Policy

The University is committed to full compliance with all local, state, and federal laws. This commitment is upheld through the University's Policy regarding Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco Products (section TWELVE of Code of Conduct) and Anti-Hazing Policy (section ELEVEN of Code of Conduct). Violations of these policies are considered threats to the interests of Nicholls State University and its student body. *Persons who violate the policy **will be** adjudicated through the University Judicial process.* Any violation of university policy or state law should be immediately reported to the University Police (448-4746) and/or the Office of Judicial Affairs (448-4531).

The full policy as well as a list of sanctions that may be imposed against offenders are printed in the [Code of Student Conduct](#). Hard copies of the Code are available through the Office of Student Life. Information can also be acquired on the University website directly at http://www.nicholls.edu/documents/student_life/code_of_conduct.pdf or go to www.nicholls.edu, click 'About Nicholls', then go to 'Compliance', to get to the Code of Conduct.

State Law

There are many local, state, and federal laws which pertain to the illegal use and distribution of alcohol, other drugs, and hazing. The listing below is a synopsis of sections of the law and should not be construed as legal advice. The consequences of not understanding and adhering to this information and the laws of the State of Louisiana may have a devastating effect on your educational plans and career pursuits. Specific regulations concerning student organizations and the use of alcohol are found in the [Paddle](#).

Alcohol and Other Drugs

- It is illegal to drink alcoholic beverages in public.
- It is unlawful to appear intoxicated in public.
- You must be 21 years of age or older to legally purchase or possess alcoholic beverages.
- In Louisiana, a SWI is defined as having a BAC (blood alcohol level) of 0.10 or above. A DUI is defined as a BAC of 0.02 or 0.099 for people under the age of 21.

Resources

Nicholls State University and other agencies in the Bayou region provide educational programs as well as year round intervention services addressing

alcohol and drug issues. Resources for educational activities, written information, and direct services include:

- › University Counseling Center · 448-4040
- › Wellness Education · 493-2608
- › University Health Services · 493-2600
- › Student Educators and Leaders (SEALs) · 448-4522
- › University Police · 448-4746
- › Bayou Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse · 446-0643
- › Alcoholics Anonymous · 1-800-285-3989

Hazing

- Both state law and university policy prohibit hazing in any form.
- Violators of the State law may be subject to a fine, imprisonment, and dismissal from their educational institution.
- Hazing is defined under state law in Title 17:1801 as follows:

“**Hazing**” is defined as any reckless or intentional action taken or any situation created which produces mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities and situations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. *Creating or inflicting or requiring physical or psychological paddle swats, other hits, burnings, brandings, treeing, shoving, tickling, bondage or restriction, blindfolding, etc. forced exercise, jogs, runs; road trips, scavenger/treasurer hunts, quests; “hell” night or week; requiring or forcing the drinking of alcohol or other abusive substances; depriving an individual of food or drink or other necessity; requiring or coercing someone to perform public stunts, buffoonery; shaving or applying substances (oil, whipped cream, etc.) onto the body of a student; nudity; personal or group servitude (washing cars, errands, cleaning); or wearing apparel which is uncomfortable to the individual, or if worn publicly, is conspicuous or not normally in good taste.*
- B. *Creating or inflicting or requiring any activity that detracts from adequate study or class time or*
- C. *productive work, or any activity that is not consistent with the academic mission Nicholls State University – for example, any activity or situation that keeps an individual from less than his uninterrupted hours of sleep.*
- D. *Degrading or humiliating or ridiculing or harassing an individual or group through words or deeds: line-ups or interrogations; name calling; or threats, lies.*
- E. *Forcing a person to break a University, local, state, or federal law or policy.*

The expressed or implied consent of a person to any such actions shall not be considered an exception to this policy and is not defensible as a violation thereof.

