

HAZING POLICY AND PREVENTION

Policy Statement

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary is committed to providing a safe educational environment and prohibits hazing in connection with any student organization, group, team, or other student activity.

For purposes of this policy and consistent with the Stop Campus Hazing Act, hazing includes any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person, whether individually or in concert with others, against another person or persons, regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that:

1. is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in a student organization; and
2. causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in Gordon-Conwell or the organization, of physical or psychological injury.

For purposes of this policy, a **student organization** includes any organization at Gordon-Conwell in which two or more members are students enrolled at the Seminary, whether or not the organization is formally established or recognized by Gordon-Conwell.

Hazing may include, but is not limited to, acts involving physical abuse; forced or coerced consumption of food, alcohol, drugs, or other substances; sleep deprivation; exposure to the elements; confinement; compelled participation in criminal conduct; activities involving unreasonable physical exertion; or other conduct that creates a risk of physical or psychological injury.

A person's willingness to participate in an activity does not prevent that activity from being considered hazing under this policy. [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov)

Reporting Hazing

Gordon-Conwell encourages all students, faculty, staff, and members of the Seminary community who experience, witness, or become aware of suspected hazing to report the conduct promptly.

Reports of suspected hazing may be made to the **Dean of Students, Student Life Services, Campus Safety, or another designated Campus Security Authority**. If an incident involves an immediate threat to health or safety, individuals should call **911**.

Gordon-Conwell will review reports of suspected hazing and, when appropriate, investigate the reported conduct under applicable Seminary policies and procedures. Incidents that may constitute criminal conduct may also be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Retaliation against any individual for making a good-faith report of hazing or participating in an investigation is prohibited.

Hazing Prevention and Awareness

Gordon-Conwell is committed to preventing hazing and promoting awareness of the risks associated with hazing. The Seminary provides information regarding its prohibition against hazing, methods for reporting suspected hazing, and appropriate prevention and awareness information to members of the Seminary community.

Gordon-Conwell encourages members of the community to recognize potentially harmful behaviors, intervene safely when appropriate, report concerns promptly, and seek assistance when an individual may be at risk.

Hazing Statistics

Pursuant to the Stop Campus Hazing Act, Gordon-Conwell began collecting statistics regarding reported hazing incidents on **January 1, 2025**. Hazing incidents reported to a Campus Security Authority or local law enforcement agency that occur within the Seminary's applicable Clery geography are included in the Annual Security Report in accordance with federal reporting requirements. [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov)

For the **2025 calendar year**, Gordon-Conwell reported: **Hazing Incidents: 0**