



UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

Policy Manual

Policy #:	STU-4001	Policy Title:	Policy on Unrecognized Student Organizations
Effective:	11/15/2019	Responsible Office:	Center for Student Involvement
Date Approved:	11/15/2019	Approval:	Vice President for Student Development
Replaces Policy Dated:	09/30/2019	Responsible University Official:	Director of Student Involvement

SCOPE:

This policy applies to the University of Richmond and all of its Affiliates. As used in this policy, the term “Affiliates” means organizations or entities in which the University owns a controlling interest or has the right to elect the majority of the entity’s governing board.

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POLICY STATEMENT:

STU-4001.1 – Definitions

Unrecognized Organizations

Unrecognized organizations are those that either (a) have not been formally recognized by the University, or (b) were previously recognized by University of Richmond and lost that recognition as a result of a University and/or national organization conduct process.

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The University of Richmond does not sanction the activities of unrecognized organizations nor encourage students to become members of such organizations.

Unrecognized organizations do not receive support or oversight from the University. Unrecognized groups do not receive University training and/or education on topics such as organizational management, harm prevention, risk management, and health and safety topics (alcohol education, sexual misconduct,

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hazing). Because these groups are unrecognized, they also do not receive University staff support in the way of advisors and mentors. Additionally, unrecognized organizations that are not affiliated with or recognized by a national organization do not carry liability insurance.

Unrecognized groups have been directed to cease ALL operations, including recruitment, education, induction of new members, and the sponsoring of and/or participation as a group under an original or new name in any on or off-campus activities or programs. Failure to comply with this requirement may be considered a violation of the Standards of Student Conduct. Students are further advised that activities that violate University policy will be addressed and students will be held accountable accordingly. Additionally, activities may be subject to litigation by the legitimate national headquarters and/or governing body.

For additional questions about the current status of unrecognized organizations, please visit the [Center for Student Involvement website](#) or by phone at 804-287-1238.

RELATED POLICIES:

Standards of Student Conduct

POLICY BACKGROUND:

This policy reflects the longstanding practice of the University of Richmond and was reviewed by President's Cabinet prior to codification for the policy library on 09/30/2019.

Policy revised to expand definition and clarify policy statement on November 15, 2019

Non-substantive updates made following policy review on July 19, 2023

POLICY CONTACTS:

Director of Student Involvement