

Grayson College  
Office of Student Life

Risk Management Program For Members Of Registered Student Organizations

Risk management is the practice of assessing the risks inherent in a specific activity and implementing some controls which reduce the potential for accidents and injuries to members and their guests. Risk management should always take precedence over expediency and shortcuts. All student organizations that sponsor social events at Grayson College or travel in the name of the College are expected to have a risk management plan in place.

There are five major factors that are often a leading cause of litigation. Any one of these factors may be applicable to the organization as a whole, the organization's sponsor, the organization's officers, or individual members.

- Ignorance of the Law – This could be applicable to the student organization that does not adopt a behavior code, reasoning that when members are involved in hazing or sexually abusive situation, it is not the responsibility of the organization. Of course, in reality the entire organization, sponsor, officers, or individual members may be indicted.
- Ignoring the Law – Although the organization knows that consuming or serving alcoholic beverages on or during College related events or trips is illegal, they continue to violate the law.
- Failure to Act – An organization that would allow a fist-fight (possibly between non-members) to continue at a function could be construed liable for the injury, because of their failure to take some sort of action to curtail the behavior.
- Failure to Warn – An organization that sponsors an activity that requires proper techniques for safe participation must inform all participants of the inherent dangers involved.
- Expense – An organization fails to appropriate funds to insure and maintain safety at an event or activity (hire a campus police officer to be present) that they sponsor may be liable in the event of an accident or injury.

Grayson College's risk management program addresses the following areas:

**Student Conduct**  
**Disorderly Conduct**  
**Alcohol Use**  
**Drug Use**  
**Tobacco**  
**Hazing**  
**Student Travel**  
**Sexual Abuse/Harassment**

- Complete policies and procedures regarding student conduct, alcohol use, drug use, tobacco, disorderly conduct, hazing and sexual harassment are outlined in the College Policies and Procedures Manual (Section FLB-FLBC Legal/Local).
- Complete policies and procedures regarding student travel are outlined in the College Policies and Procedures Manual (Section CJ-Transportation Management, Legal/Local).

Additional student travel information, event planning and risk management information maybe found in the Student Organization Policies and Procedures Manual. The Student Handbook may also be used as a reference guide. These documents/manuals are located in the sponsor's office, Student Life Directors office the Vice President of Student Services office and online at [www.grayson.edu](http://www.grayson.edu). Click on You Tube and/or iTunes to view the video relating to the Student Organizational Risk Management Program or click on the Student Life link and go to the Student Handbook. Many student related topics are covered in this handbook. It's recommended that all students be familiar with the material in the Student Handbook.

Having a student organizational risk management program and implementing it goes a long way not only to reducing the possibility that something unfortunate happens, but it will also help to protect the member, the sponsor etc. in the event the College gets sued.

The Director of Student Life will meet with all student organization/club sponsors annually. This business meeting will take place in September. Each student organization sponsor will provide all the required paper work to register their respective organization for the coming academic year. Included in this packet of information will be the organization's student risk management program signature page..

All documents will be on file in the Director of Student Life's office. For additional information please contact the office of Student Life 903 463-8693.

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