

federal laws related to the use or possession of drugs and alcohol, as well as in other situations when authorized by FERPA.

### **Financial Obligations**

The Office of Student Accounts is responsible for billing and collecting tuition, board and room charges, and University fees. A booklet of financial regulations may be obtained at the Office of Student Accounts at 555 Clark Street.

Students are responsible for fulfilling their financial obligations to the University. Any student whose account becomes overdue must pay a late payment fee of \$100. In addition, the student is liable for any costs associated with the collection of the past due account, including, but not limited to, collection agency costs, court costs, and legal fees.

The director of student accounts may cancel or prevent the registration of students whose bills are past due. Students whose University bills are overdue may not be given a diploma or transcript or have their enrollment or degrees confirmed until all financial obligations are paid in full.

### **Fraternity and Sorority Recruitment for First-Year Students**

Northwestern University restricts first-year students from joining Interfraternity Council, Multicultural Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, or Pan-hellenic Association member groups until winter quarter. During fall quarter no fraternity or sorority may offer an invitation of membership to any first-year student. A first-year student may accept an invitation of membership from a chapter only after the start of winter quarter. Upperclass students and transfer students are permitted to participate in fall, winter, or spring quarter informal recruitment programs sponsored by the chapters.

Alcohol is not permitted at any recruitment or new member/pledge activity.

In the fall quarter during Wildcat Welcome (New Student Week) and the subsequent first two weeks of classes, first-year students may not attend an event sponsored by a fraternity or sorority chapter and may not visit a fraternity or sorority house except to visit a close relative, fulfill an academic requirement, carry out official University business, or meet obligations of employment. Starting on the Sunday of the third week, first-year students are permitted to enter chapter houses unless alcohol is present or as otherwise prohibited under the rules and regulations governing fraternity and sorority chapters. Both first-year students and chapters are subject to discipline for violating this policy. Check with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life for additional policies and procedures.

### **Gambling**

Illinois law prohibits gambling in any form, the sponsoring of lotteries, and the sale of lottery tickets, except lotteries and raffles conducted in accordance with state and local law. Students involved in gambling-related incidents may face legal and disciplinary actions. (See also “Gambling Policy for Student Groups” on page 49.)

### **Hate Crimes and Bias Incidents**

Illinois law provides for criminal and civil penalties against an individual or individuals who assault, trespass upon, or cause damage to the property of or injure physically or emotionally another person or persons because of such person’s race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, or national origin. Students involved in hate-crime-related incidents may face legal and disciplinary actions. The related conduct that is classified as a bias incident is defined as an act of conduct, speech, or expression to which a bias motive is evident as a contributing factor (regardless of whether the act is criminal).

A hate crime is a bias incident that has risen to the level of a crime. All hate crimes are bias incidents, but not all bias incidents are hate crimes. Sanctions will be imposed for students found to have committed bias incidents or hate crimes.

### Hazing

The University forbids hazing and all other activities that interfere with the personal liberty of an individual. The University defines hazing as any action taken or situation created, whether on or off University premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule for the purpose of initiation into, affiliation with, or admission to, or as a condition for continued membership in, a group, team, club, or other organization. Such actions and situations may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- paddling in any form;
- creation of excessive fatigue;
- physical and psychological shocks;
- quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips, or any other such activities carried on outside the confines of the University;
- wearing apparel that is conspicuous and not normally in good taste;
- engaging in stunts and buffoonery;
- requiring sleepovers or degrading or humiliating games and activities;
- late work sessions or activities that interfere with scholastic activities and/or normal sleeping hours;
- forced consumption of alcohol;
- falsely leading an individual or individuals to believe that they will be inducted/initiated by participating in particular activities;
- removing public or private property; and
- forcing individuals to participate in activities that are not consistent with the University's mission, rules, regulations, and policies or federal, state, or local law.

Acceptance of an activity on the part

of a new member or individual does not justify participation in or sponsorship of the activity. Any violation of this policy should be reported to the dean of students or the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (formerly Judicial Affairs).

Hazing activities may also violate the Illinois Hazing Act, 720 ILCS §120/0.01 et seq.

### Identification Cards (WildCARDS)

The University identification card (WildCARD) identifies registered students and should be carried at all times. The WildCARD is the property of the University and is not transferable; its privileges may be canceled at any time if the card is misused. Students are required to surrender their WildCARD to University officials upon request.

The student's ID number is encoded on the card and indicates whether the student is currently registered and if the card is valid. The card identifies the holder for admission to the library during hours of limited access and is needed at all times to borrow books. If students carry a meal plan, the WildCARD admits them to residence hall dining facilities. It also identifies the holder at Health Services, Norris University Center, student functions and elections, and University athletic events and as a resident of an on-campus living unit.

A cardholder may activate a personal U.S. Bank student checking account, allowing the card to be used as an automatic teller machine (ATM) card. Cardholders can then make purchases wherever ATM cards are accepted as well as write checks against an available balance.

A cash stripe on the WildCARD may be used for purchases in vending machines, in copiers, and at on- or off-campus merchants. To use the cash stripe, find any campus Cash to Card machine and insert the card and then money, up to a maximum of \$50. Visitors may purchase