

# 100 Alternatives to Hazing at Maryland

1. Participate in a Ropes Course at the Maryland Adventure Program (M.A.P., a part of Campus Recreation Services).
2. Teambuilding Activities that are facilitated by a Student Affairs professional – there are hundreds of these activities that you could use.
3. Participate in and/or plan a Community Service Project
4. Participate in a values-based/information scavenger hunt
5. Have a Resume Writing Workshop presented by Career Resource Center
6. Attend Educational Speaker of new members choice and discuss as a chapter
7. Leadership Book-of-the-Month/Semester Club facilitated by new members
8. Invite Faculty Advisor to lunch with new members
9. Have a Discussion about the Relevance of the Creed today
10. Study Skills Workshop presented by the University administrator or Tutoring Zone
11. Successful Alumni Speaker to talk about how f/s gave skills to succeed
12. Arts and Crafts for a Cause
13. Participate in a Recruitment Workshop
14. Invite campus leaders to Speak about student governance
15. Invite University Leadership to talk about what it means to be a Terp!
16. Dinner and a Movie
17. Shadow an Officer and assist in planning of a program/event
18. Create a vision and goals for the organization
19. Plan a fundraiser to pay for initiation fees
20. Include new members in chapter meetings
21. Include new members in regularly scheduled chapter activities
22. Discuss fraternal values and how they apply (or don't apply)
23. Plan and present a speaker on a health/wellness topic
24. Require active membership in at least one organization outside the group
25. Evaluate the process during and after new member education
26. Host a Family Weekend activity
27. Have consultant or national visitor talk about national programs
28. Discuss what "Nationals" does for "us" with dues money
29. Attend a student council meeting
30. Participate in all or campus events (e.g. Homecoming, Dance Marathon, etc.)
31. Review parliamentary procedure and its purpose
32. Ask leadership experts to discuss issues such as motivation and group dynamics
33. Have new members take the Meyers-Briggs Personality Type Inventory and discuss
34. Ask a faculty member or administrator to discuss ethical decision making
35. Ask a faculty member to facilitate a conversation on diversity in your group
36. Ask campus health educator to do a presentation on eating disorders or depression, etc.
37. Ask university police to discuss the prevention of violence against women
38. Ask an Advisor to describe what the college offers groups like yours
39. Plan a philanthropy project for a local charity
40. Have a contest for who can recruit the most new members to join and reward the winner with a fully-paid membership badge or initiation fee
41. Members and new members make "secret sisters/brothers" gifts for each other
42. Discuss risk management and liability with the university counsel
43. Brainstorm ways to recruit new members to present to chapter
44. Have an all-campus or all- community "Meet Our New Members" Picnic
45. Have new members play on the group intramural team.
46. Plant a new member class tree.
47. Sponsor a big/little academic challenge with free textbooks to the winner
48. Have a candlelight/pass the [special object] ceremony about what the group means to me
49. Have a senior Student Affairs administrator talk about history of your organization at UMD
50. Brainstorm ways to improve scholarship (other than study hours)
51. Attend theatrical production or athletic event of the new members choosing
52. Ask the library to give a lecture on effective research methods
53. Attend a program or event another organization is sponsoring
54. Have a discussion about membership standards and expectations
55. Have a chapter goal-setting retreat
56. Ask new members to accompany members to regional leadership conferences

57. Attend the campus leadership workshops
58. Deconstruct past hazing activity to determine intent and brainstorm alternatives
59. Write a "letter to the founders" to thank them for the opportunity (not to be shared)
60. Attend an Executive Board meeting
61. Have new members help Executive Board develop an icebreaker for each meeting
62. Develop a leadership "wish list" or time line of chapter and campus activities
63. Invite Advisor to discuss the Codes of Maryland and the reason for their existence
64. Invite the Learning Center or Career Development Center to explain their services
65. Develop a faculty advisor appreciation gesture
66. Chapter and new members collaborate on a house improvement project.
67. Develop an event with another organization that requires new members to ask the Student Government for additional allocations or to apply for a campus grant.
68. Have new members develop a list of ways to end chapter motivation issues.
69. Ask the Mayor to discuss city issues and how the group can help.
70. Ask a City official to discuss politics in the city/county/nation.
71. Encourage members to register to vote. Give an incentive to those who do.
72. Require members below a 3.0 to attend a study skills program.
73. Take a group hike on one of the many local trails.
74. Discuss the founding of the group and how the organization has evolved over time while maintaining the vision. If it hasn't, how can the group return to its' roots?
75. Host a diversity awareness program conducted by Multicultural and Diversity Affairs
76. Review the history of hazing, the evolution of new member education and the direction in which recruitment is headed.
77. Discuss the "old way" of pledging versus the "new way" with a panel of alumni, administrators and council officers.
78. Have new members plan or co-sponsor an alcohol-free social event with another group.
79. Have a professional discuss the "Millennial Generation" and how groups can better recruit based on this research.
80. Offer a discount or reimbursement of part of the initiation fee if a new member completes Florida Alternative Break.
81. Give highest new member GPA recipient a plaque or \$25 gift certificate to nice restaurant.
82. New member who develops best recruitment plan (or scholarship plan) gets a free \_\_\_\_.
83. Ask senior members of your organization to speak about lessons learned and opportunities to attend.
84. Do a group fundraiser to send new members to a regional or national training for the organization.
85. Have a discussion about why new members wear pins and not members.
86. Attend new member orientation that is hosted by a larger umbrella organization
87. Plan a new member karaoke or lip sync competition
88. Allow new members time for themselves to do and be what they want. Don't monopolize their time.
89. Go on a new member class fishing trip.
90. Invite another group to develop a program to benefit the entire campus community.
91. Invite a Campus Fitness Specialist or Dietician to discuss dietary fads – pros and cons.
92. Ask each member to list the offices/chairs they would be interested in. Have them list five things they would do differently about each. Compile results without names attached and have a constructive conversation.
93. Develop one memento of the new member class to present to the campus.
94. Play paintball or other similar event with another group's new member class.
95. Ask a professor to do a workshop on etiquette.
96. Have lunch together once a week in a dining hall with the entire group.
97. Invite faculty advisor to new member meetings.
98. Visit the regional / national headquarters of your group.
99. Plan an alcohol-free lock-in with the new members and brothers.
100. Question each activity and evaluate the program each semester with the help of Administrators from the Dept. of Fraternity and Sorority Life, The Office of Student Conduct, or the Student Organization Resource Center.

***Adapted from original list created by Allison Swick-Duttine, Director of Fraternity/Sorority Life, State University of New York College at Plattsburgh.***