



**SUBJECT:** Information Technology

**POLICY:** 705.1 Peer-to-Peer File Sharing

**RELATED PROCEDURE:** 705.1.1 Peer-to-Peer File Sharing

**EFFECTIVE:** June 2010

**REVISED:** March 2023

**REVIEWED:**

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## **INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE**

The primary purpose of this policy is to inform, educate and set expectations for the members of the college community of their individual and corporate responsibilities towards the use of Peer-to-Peer applications using the college network.

## **POLICY**

The college's network connections may not be used to violate copyright laws. The unauthorized reproduction of copyrighted materials is a serious violation of Great Falls College MSU acceptable use policy, as well as federal law.

All Peer-to-Peer File sharing network activity will be monitored. Network activity that utilizes Peer-to-Peer applications that have a high prevalence for distributing copyrighted material will be blocked and the user quarantined from accessing external internet resources.

If an artist, author, publisher, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), or a law enforcement agency notifies the College that a faculty/staff member or student is violating copyright laws, Great Falls College MSU will provide to the relevant offices within the college information in the form of internet protocol (IP) address information and any information from logs to assist in the investigation of the complaint. If appropriate, action will be taken against the violator in accordance with campus or college policy. In some cases, violations of policy can result in suspension or revocation of network access privileges without refund of network access fees and/or civil or criminal prosecution under state and federal statutes.

## **RELATED:**

[Montana Board of Regents Policy 1303.2 Employee Internet Services](#)

[Montana Board of Regents Policy 1304.2 Student Internet Services](#)