

## Illegal File Downloading and Sharing Policy

### Purpose

Dakota State University (DSU) has established a formal policy regarding the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material. The unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material is illegal and carries substantial civil and criminal penalties under the [Digital Millennium Copyright Act](#) (DMCA) and other laws.

This policy has been implemented to mitigate the exposure of DSU to security risks and liabilities associated with illegal file downloading and sharing.

### Audience

This policy applies to all devices owned by DSU and/or connected to the DSU network.

### Policy

This policy strictly prohibits the distribution, downloading, uploading, or sharing of any intellectual property that is:

- Specified as illegal by any federal or state law, statute, proclamation, order, or decree.
- Copyrighted and not authorized for distribution by the copyright owner.
- Considered to be proprietary, privileged, private, or otherwise vital to the operation of the university; including, but not limited to, personnel, student, financial, or strategic records and documents, or any material governed by federal and state regulations.

Users of DSU resources may not attempt to circumvent, bypass, defeat, or disrupt any device, method, or technology implemented by the university for the purpose of mitigating illegal file downloading and sharing.

An annual disclosure to students describing copyright law and campus policies related to violating copyright law must be made available.

DSU must “[offer an alternative to illegal downloading.](#)”

## Enforcement

Users or devices found in violation of this policy may be denied access to the DSU network.

## Definitions

**Sharing** – in the context of this policy, describes the action and activity of making any data file available.

**Uploading** – describes network trafficking of data files originating from the DSU network or any DSU owned device.

**Downloading** – describes network trafficking of data files destined for the DSU network or any DSU owned device.

**The DSU network and networking resources** – describes all materials and devices owned by DSU and used to provide network connectivity to any network capable device. This includes all jacks, cable, hubs, wireless access points, switches, and routers.

## Related Policies

SD Board of Regents' Acceptable Use of Information Systems Policy 7:1  
SD Board of Regents' Security of Information Technology Systems Policy 7:4  
DSU Computing Privileges Policy

## Revision History

This policy will be evaluated on an annual basis for ensuring its adequacy and relevancy regarding DSU's needs and goals.

<b>Revision Date</b>	<b>Reviewed by</b>
2014-03-14	Security Policy Committee