

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY POLICY

Policy #:		Effective:	June 2017*	Category:	Student Policies
Name:	Computer Usage and Intellectual Property Policy				

1.0 PURPOSE

MSSU's academic and administrative computing facilities are provided in order to promote and support academic pursuits. Academic computing facilities are therefore to be used only for instruction and research activities. Administrative computing facilities are to be used in support of MSSU's mission. Listed here are certain responsibilities and the ethical behavior expected of you as a computer user. In addition, since we are members of the MOREnet Consortium all computer users at MSSU are bound by their acceptable use policy, which can be viewed at <http://www.more.net/about/policies/aup.html> This Acceptable Use Policy is a dynamic document that will change as new issues arise or further clarification of topics is required. If questions on acceptable use arise that are not directly answered by this document, the user should be conservative and consider it unacceptable use until clarification, amendment or exception to policies can be made by the appropriate university representative. The guidelines presented here reflect U.S. Copyright Law, the Law of the State of Missouri and additional specific rules relative to the MSSU campus. It is the intent of Missouri Southern State University to adhere to the provisions of copyright laws relative to software and to comply with license agreements and/or policy statements contained in the software packages used on campus.

2.0 SCOPE

This policy applies to all students of the University.

3.0 POLICY

U.S. Copyright Law and Software Licensing

1. All computer software is protected by the federal copyright law. It is illegal to make or distribute copies of copyrighted material without authorization.
2. The copyright owner may grant copying privileges for certain software. These special provisions will be specified in the documentation, license agreement, or in the software package.
3. The user does have the right to make a backup copy for archival purposes.
4. Under no circumstances should copyrighted software be distributed outside the university through any mechanism, electronic or otherwise.
5. You are responsible for being aware of the licensing restrictions for the software you use on any system. Lack of knowledge does not justify a violation of the law.
6. When in doubt, do not copy. Violation of copyright law of licensing agreements may result in university disciplinary action and/or may result in legal action.
7. In order to receive user support from the Computer Center, from microcomputer lab assistants, or from vendors, you may be asked to produce the manuals, serial numbers, or original diskettes as proof of proper software licensing.

State of Missouri Law, RSMo. 569.094-569.099

A state law now makes unauthorized access and interference with computer systems, computer data and other computer users illegal. Unauthorized use of passwords and the breach of security of any computer system are illegal.

State of Missouri Law, RSMo. 573.010-573.065

It is illegal to display explicit sexual material or child pornography. It is a violation of school policy to send/display defamatory, harassing, pornographic, obscene or patently offensive sexual materials to anyone. This conduct can subject you to criminal and civil penalties. Do not participate in such conduct.

MSSU Rules and Regulations

- Always apply normal standards of academic ethics and polite conduct to your use of computing services.
- Respect the equipment and privacy of others.
- Drinks, food, and tobacco products are not allowed in campus computing facilities.
- Campus computing facilities may not be used for personal profit.
- Your computing activities should not interfere with the rights of other users.
- High bandwidth applications are prohibited.
- Any use for personal or private purposes is prohibited.
- Missouri Southern property and equipment may be used only for those purposes related to the general activities and purposes of the University.
- Missouri Southern equipment cannot be used for plagiarism, cheating, harassment or intimidation or for the promotion of political or religious agendas.
- Missouri Southern prohibits the use of its property for publishing or storing obscene, pornographic or offensive materials.
- Wireless networks, including wireless routers, are prohibited in residence halls.
- Students requesting network access in a residence hall are responsible for all activity performed at their network location.
- Computers in residence halls connected to the university local area network must have adequate virus protection. Computers found to be infected with viruses or running applications negatively impacting network bandwidth are subject to disconnection to protect other users.
- ISP, WEBTV, BBS or other modem connections from residence halls are not permitted.
- Only Computer Center authorized TCP/IP connections are permitted. NetBIOS and NetBEUI are not permitted.
- Peer-to-peer file and printer sharing are not permitted.
- No inbound TCP connections are allowed from off campus locations.

Disciplinary Action

It is the expectation of the University that all students abide by the terms of this policy. If a student violates this policy, the University may subject the student to immediate disciplinary action, up to and including suspension. Prosecution under applicable state and federal laws may also be pursued.

4.0 HISTORY

This policy may be revised, edited, changed or removed at any time with or without notice to applicable individuals.

5.0 RELATED DOCUMENTS