

STLCOP Copyright Infringement & Remediation Policy

The St. Louis of College of Pharmacy *Acceptable Use Policy* (AUP) states that “Accessing, downloading, uploading, viewing, receiving, saving, or sending material that is... illegal is absolutely prohibited,” and furthermore, explicitly states that users must “abide by all copyright laws when downloading, viewing, using, or sharing any material. Plagiarism and copyright infringement are serious crimes with serious consequences.”

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA)

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) of 1998 is a federal law that is designed to protect copyright holders from online theft—that is, from the unlawful reproduction or distribution of their works. The DMCA covers music, movies, text and anything that is copyrighted.

Examples of DMCA Violations

- Somebody e-mails copyrighted material to you and, in turn, you forward it to one or more friends.
- You make an MP3 copy of a song from a CD that you bought (purchasers are expressly permitted to do so) but subsequently make the MP3 file(s) available on the Internet using a file-sharing network.
- You join a file-sharing network and download unauthorized copies of copyrighted material you want from the computers of other network members.
- To gain access to copyrighted material on the computers of other network members, you pay a fee to join a file-sharing network that is not authorized to distribute or make copies of the copyrighted material. You then download unauthorized material.
- You transfer copyrighted material using an instant messaging service.
- You have a computer with a CD burner that you use to burn copies of music you have downloaded onto writable CDs which you then distribute to your friends.

Note: If you pay for something, it is probably protected by a copyright!

The DMCA @ STLCOP

If you are using STLCOP's computer network, including StLCoP dial-up service, the College is your registered Internet Service Provider (ISP). The DMCA requires ISPs to take down or block access to copyrighted materials in a timely fashion when notified that their customers are sharing copyrighted files.

Complaints typically arrive directly from software, music and motion picture associations, copyright holders and law firms. The IT Department disables network access for the listed device and attempts to identify the owner to inform him or her about the complaint. ***If the***

owner believes the complaint to be inaccurate, they are given the opportunity to contest the finding.

Remediation

If you are the target of a DMCA complaint, the following actions must be taken:

1. Sharing of all copyrighted materials as defined by the STLCOP Acceptable Use Policy and federal law must be stopped.
2. **You must complete the *Acceptable & Legal Computing Use* course.** After completing the course an agreement to cease sharing copyrighted materials is signed. Upon signing the agreement it is expected that any files currently being shared across the network will be removed.
3. **Egregious and repeat offenders of this policy will be subject to the immediate suspension of their network privileges for a minimum of two weeks!**

To make arrangements to complete the *Acceptable & Legal Computing* course, you must contact Ryan Browning, the Academic Technology Manager, at 314-446-8415.

If your network connection has been disabled, call the Help Desk at (314) 367-8700 Ext. 5555. If you are informed that your connection has been disabled due to illegal file sharing or downloading and you are a first-time offender, you must complete Steps 1 & 2 above before your access will be restored.

Repeat offenders will be forwarded to the appropriate Vice-President or Dean for possible punitive action (in the case of faculty and staff, departmental supervisors are also notified). Additionally, users with multiple violations may have their network privileges suspended, and in egregious cases, revoked permanently.

Any attempts to circumvent the disabling of network access are treated as a flagrant violation of policy and are forwarded to appropriate Vice-President or Dean, and, if necessary, the Office of the President for possible punitive action.