Unauthorized Peer-to-Peer Networking Policy

Policy/Procedure

Unauthorized peer-to-peer network sharing products allow users to share and download applications and materials across diverse networks that may pose the risk of downloading and sharing license and copyrighted materials, for which there can be legal ramifications. Many unauthorized peer-to-peer network sharing products consume and abuse network resources. The use of these products on the campus network may impact network performance for the entire campus community.

Infrastructure Systems manages the use of these products across the campus network through the campus packet shaping network appliance.

Whenever Infrastructure Systems discovers the use of an unauthorized peer-to-peer network sharing product that is adversely impacting network performance or receives notification of licensing or copyright violations the following steps will be taken:

For a first offense of this policy the offending computer is blocked from accessing the campus network infrastructure. Student systems must be taken to the RSA and the peer-to-peer network sharing product will be removed from the system. Faculty, administrative and staff systems must be cleaned by the assigned User Services liaison. After the offending system is certified clean the system will be permitted access to campus network infrastructure.

For a second offense the system will be blocked from the campus network infrastructure for a period of 2 weeks after the system has been deemed clean by the RSA or User Services liaison.

A third offense will result in the removal of the computer for an entire semester.

If you are unsure about software you are using contact helpdesk@dickinson.edu or rsa@dickinson.edu to determine if the program you are using is an authorized peer-to-peer network sharing product.

Related Information

**Responsible Office/Division:** Robert Renaud/ LIS

**Effective Date:** February 10, 2012

**Last Amended Date:** February 10, 2012

**Next Review Date:**
Also Found In: LIS Web Site (http://lis.dickinson.edu/technology/policies/peer-to-peer.htm)