

ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY
Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Preamble

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting computers all over the world, making it possible for millions of people to share and/or exchange information. Internet access is coordinated through a collaborative effort of government agencies, and regional and state networks. The Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Such services include electronic mail and graphical access to the World Wide Web. This policy governs the use of Internet resources at Elizabeth City State University.

1. Acceptable Use

Elizabeth City State University's primary goals in providing Internet services to the university community are to support research and education, and to enhance institutional effectiveness and efficiency. The use of university resources must be in support of these goals.

2. Inappropriate Use

Transmission of any material in violation of any national, state, or university regulation is prohibited. Except where it is explicitly permitted, it is a violation of one or more university policies, state or federal law(s) for users of the university's resources to:

- A. Provide copyrighted material without copyright permission.
- B. Provide material that constitutes unlawful obscenity, defamation, or harassment, or use the resources to defame or harass.
- C. Provide material for personal commercial gain.
- D. Provide commercial services.
- E. Receive compensation, from any party not entitled to utilize university resources for production or distribution of material.
- F. Provide materials whose nature or volume compromises the ability of the resources to serve other users (e.g., chain mail).
- G. Use network resources to view or transmit material that constitutes unlawful obscenity.
- H. Make a malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user.
- I. Download copyrighted material (e.g., music) without written permission or proper payment if it is of a commercial nature.

3. Violation of Policy

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Sanctions for violation of this policy may include revocation or suspension of access privileges in addition to any other sanction permitted under university code. Violations of law may also be referred for criminal or civil prosecution. Refer to ECSU's *Computer Use Policy* for other regulatory information.

4. Application of Public Records Law

All information created or received for work purposes and contained in university computing equipment files, servers or electronic mail (e-mail) depositories are public records and are available to the public unless an exception to the Public Records Law applies. This information may be purged or destroyed only in accordance with the ECSU records retention schedule and State Division of Archives regulations.

5. Review

ECSU reserves the right and has the authority to interpret and apply this policy and the Board of Trustees has the authority to review and/or modify or amend it at any time. It is imperative that each employee reviews and complies with any changes made to this policy.