

Copyright

It is Blue Cliff College's policy that no copyright protected materials may be copied, either via hard copy or electronically, absent the prior written permission of the author or publisher or as otherwise permitted by applicable law. The copyright laws are complex and all students must exercise extreme care when considering the proper use of copyrighted materials.

The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 as amended requires institutions to advise students and employees that unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including peer-to-peer file sharing may subject students and employees to civil and criminal penalties.

Peer-to-Peer file sharing (P2P) is a technology that allows people to download files from one another over the Internet. Normal downloads have a two participant relationship; a server that hosts the file and a client that downloads the file. Using P2P applications, networked computers share files without the need for a client server relationship. Each computer acts simultaneously as a client and server. P2P users store files on their computers and the P2P application enables other users to download those files onto their computers.

P2P technology makes it possible to share files that are copyrighted. Federal law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public display or public performance of copyrighted materials over the Internet without permission of the copyright holder. Blue Cliff College fully complies with the federal Digital Millennium Copyright of 1998 and has the measures in place for tracking alleged incidents of copyright infringement.

Blue Cliff College may receive a notice from the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) and other content owners that copyrighted material has been infringed by a user on the College's network. Once the user is verified, the user is forwarded a copy of the notice and is ordered to cease and desist any illegal activity.

If a subpoena is issued by the RIAA, by law, Blue Cliff College is required to provide the identity of alleged infringers. Employees and students subject to subpoenas risk further legal action and disciplinary action.

Student offenders will be referred to the Campus Director. Depending on the severity of the offense, disciplinary action will follow the procedures defined in the [catalog](#) for academic dishonesty as found on pages 48–49.

