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Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for Computing and Networking Resources at Colorado State University

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Computing and data communications at Colorado State University are valuable and limited resources that serve a large number and variety of users. All users have the responsibility to make use of these resources in an efficient, ethical, and legal manner.

The University's computer and network services provide access to resources on and off campus and shall be used in a manner consistent with the instructional, research, and administrative objectives of the University community in general and with the purpose for which such use was intended. Such open access is a privilege, and imposes upon users certain responsibilities and obligations. Access to the University's computers and network services is granted subject to University policies, and local, state, and federal laws. Acceptable use is always ethical, reflects academic honesty, and shows restraint in the consumption of shared resources. It demonstrates respect for intellectual property, ownership of data, copyright laws, system security mechanisms, and individuals' rights to privacy and to freedom from intimidation and harassment. All activities inconsistent with these objectives are considered to be inappropriate and may jeopardize continued use of computing facilities and networks.

In consideration of being allowed to use the University's central computer and network services ("Resources"), I understand and agree to the following:

1. I shall not use the Resources for any illegal activity or for any activity prohibited by this policy (see subsequent pages for examples of inappropriate conduct that is prohibited), the "Students' Rights and Responsibilities" policy or the policies set forth in the Academic Faculty and Administrative Professional Manual.
2. I agree not to use the Resources to infringe upon or otherwise impair, interfere with or violate any copyright or other intellectual property rights of another. This pertains to all copyrighted material, including, but not limited to music, video and software. I understand that I may be potentially liable for misuse of the Resources, including acts that are contrary to University policy. Except for such claims as may be covered by the Governmental Immunity Act (Colorado Revised Statutes 24-10-101 et seq.), I agree to be responsible for all claims arising from my misuse of the Resources and shall indemnify and hold harmless the University from any costs, expenses or liabilities that might be asserted or imposed upon it or any of its officers, agents or affiliates as a result of such misuse.
3. I shall avoid any action that interferes with the efficient operation of the Resources or impedes the flow of information necessary for academic or administrative operations of the University.
4. I shall protect my computer resources such as eID, logins and systems from unauthorized use. I acknowledge that I am responsible for reasonably securing my computer, including implementing such protections as logins to prohibit unauthorized use, applying in a timely fashion operating system and software patches that protect my computer from hackers, and implementing virus scanning software.
5. I will access only information that is my own, which is publicly available, or to which I have been given authorized access.

Examples of Inappropriate Conduct:

Conduct which violates this policy includes, but is not limited to:

- Accessing another person's computer, computer account, files, or data without permission.
- Using the campus network to gain unauthorized access to any computer system.
- Using any means to decode or otherwise obtain restricted passwords or access control information.
- Attempting to circumvent or subvert system or network security measures. Examples include creating or running programs that are designed to identify security loopholes, to decrypt intentionally secured data, or to gain unauthorized access to any system.
- Engaging in any activity that might be purposefully harmful to systems or to any information stored thereon, such as creating or propagating viruses, disrupting services, damaging files or making unauthorized modifications to university data.

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