

2020 DMCA Annual Student Notice

Subject: Copyright Infringement and Delaware Valley University
To: All Delaware Valley University Students

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) requires higher education institutions, including Delaware Valley University, to inform students annually about copyright infringement and DMCA notice risks. In compliance with the HEOA the University would like to make you aware of the consequences of using file sharing programs, like BitTorrent, UTorrent, etc. to download music, movies, software and other copyrighted material

Content owners have tools to monitor various sources for peer-to-peer file sharing programs violating copyrights by distributing music, movies, television, games, or software. University campuses are a particularly common place for content owners to look for infringement since a significant amount of this traffic occurs on campus networks. So, even if you have used them before, without consequence, experience shows us that connecting your computer to the Delaware Valley University network with file sharing software installed can put you at risk for detection by copyright owners, and can result in serious legal and financial penalties.

Steps you can take:

- Protect yourself by uninstall file sharing software prior to arriving at the University.
- Understand legal and financial risks: These range from a "cease and desist" order to fines as high as \$150,000 and imprisonment.
- Use legal sources for online music and videos.

Copying and distributing digital forms of original work such as music, movies, instructors' manuals, textbooks, and video games for which you do not own the copyright or have permission of the copyright holder violates both civil and criminal law, and also may be a violation of University policy. As a civil matter, fines begin at \$750 per incident and can be as high as \$150,000; willful violations can result in criminal penalties, including stiff fines and imprisonment. As violation of policy, complaints submitted by copyright owners will be referred to the Office of the Student Affairs. In compliance with federal law, Delaware Valley University also will block off-campus Internet access for all devices registered to repeat offenders.

For questions about copyright policy at Delaware Valley University contact the University's Information Security Manager (infosec@delval.edu). Please contact the Help Desk (support@delval.edu/215.489.4357) with any other questions you have.

The Technology Services section of myDelVal.edu has a special page devoted to copyright infringement and the University. There is a lot of other useful information here including alternative sources and suggestions for music, movies and software. (<https://delawarevalleycollege.sharepoint.com/sites/technologyservices/SitePages/Copyright-Infringment.aspx>).

Thank you,
Technology Services