



Information Technology Acceptable Use Policy

The purpose of information technology systems (FAX, telephone, computer, and network) at Southwest Mississippi Community College (SMCC) is to support the educational mission of the college in accordance with college policies and in a manner conducive to the overall instructional climate. Access to these systems is a privilege. All users must respect the rights of others and the integrity of the information technology systems and related resources. Any activity that interferes with the ability of these systems to support the educational mission of the college will be blocked or disabled without notice. By accessing SMCC computer and network resources, all users agree to abide by this policy.

Users have the following responsibilities:

- Users must follow all the requirements of college policies, regulations, and procedures. In addition, users must observe all relevant laws, regulations, and contractual obligations.
- Users may enter the college's information technology systems only through an authorized SMCC account. Accounts and account passwords may not be shared.
- Inappropriate use of information technology resources and hindering access to those systems is prohibited. Users must not obstruct the operations of the SMCC information technology system in any way. Users may not use SMCC computer or network resources for personal gain.
- Users must respect the privacy of others by refraining from inspecting, broadcasting, or modifying personal data without consent. Users must not use the SMCC information technology system to make statements that may injure another person or entity.
- Use of the SMCC network to access, copy, or transmit inappropriate, obscene, and/or pornographic material is not permitted.
- Users must observe all pertinent copyright laws and licensing requirements when using, copying, and/or downloading software programs or files. SMCC expects all users to adhere to the United States Copyright Act and the related acts which further define the proper use of copyrighted materials.

In order to maintain system performance and security, computer and network activity will be monitored by authorized individuals. If individuals are suspected of abusing any of these systems, the contents of user files, network activity, or related items may be inspected with a written request from the appropriate Vice President. In the case of a student, the Vice President of Student Services will issue the request. Account privileges may be suspended while a reported violation is under review by the Vice President. Violations may result in termination of privileges, payment for damages, legal prosecution, or other penalties.

Mississippi Laws that apply to the use of computing and networking systems and to publicly accessible web pages.

[Sec. 97-45-11](#) | [Sec. 97-5-29](#) | [Sec. 97-19-85](#) | [Sec. 97-29-101](#)
[Sec. 97-45](#)

Federal Laws that concern copyright materials can be found at [the United States Copyright Act website](#).

Signature: _____ Date: _____