

COPYRIGHT MATERIALS AND INFRINGEMENT POLICY

The Institute expects that all students and employees adhere to the United States Copyright Act (title 17 United States Code) and the related acts, which further define the proper use of copyrighted materials. These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement. Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or “statutory” damages affixed at not less than \$750 and not more than \$30,000 per work infringed. For “willful” infringement, a court may award up to \$150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys’ fees.

For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505. Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to \$250,000 per offense.

For more information, please see the Web site of the U.S. Copyright Office at www.copyright.gov, especially their FAQ’s at www.copyright.gov/help/faq.

Federal Trade Commission (FTC) – www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/alerts/alt128.shtm

Computers located in the student library area are for student use. It is against school policy for students to copy or share copyrighted material. This includes unauthorized peer to peer file sharing. It is prohibited for students to use the schools information technology systems for these activities.