

Office of Judicial Affairs and Mediation Services
Middle Tennessee State University
Downloading Agreement

I understand that I have violated university policy regarding inappropriate computer use, specifically illegal downloading of music and/or video files from the internet. I understand that I will be issued a written reprimand for a first-time offense and required to watch an educational video about illegal downloading. I acknowledge the following:

_____ P2P technology enables millions of computer users around the world to find and trade digital files with each other. By using a P2P computer program, a user can scan the hard drives of millions of people and instantly acquire (download) content with the click of a mouse. At the same time, that user can enable the millions of people on the P2P network to copy the contents of his or her hard drive. While P2P technology itself can be used for legitimate purposes, the predominant – indeed, almost exclusive – use of P2P networks has been to trade copyrighted music, movies, pictures, and software. From a legal standpoint, this activity violates copyright holders’ exclusive rights to copy and distribute their works. From a practical standpoint, this activity threatens the entertainment industry’s ability to succeed in the evolving digital marketplace.

_____ Students should be aware that establishing internal file-sharing systems on their schools’ local area networks (or “LANs”), enabling them to trade copyrighted files without accessing the public Internet is no less illegal and presents many of the same problems as larger P2P systems.

_____ If a person uses university resources, i.e. the university network or university hardware, to download illegal files, the university has a responsibility to take action against a student to protect the entire university community.

I, _____, understand the university rules regarding illegal downloading and sharing of files. I agree on this date, _____, that I will no longer use university resources to obtain illegal files. I understand that further infractions will result in stricter sanctions with the possibility of legal action and removal from school. I understand that a copy of this form will be kept as part of my university disciplinary file.

Student Signature

Staff Signature