

Combating Illegal File Sharing
Lewis-Clark State College
(updated Fall 2010)

- I. In compliance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) of 2008, Lewis-Clark State College hereby articulates its plan to combat illegal file sharing via its technological infrastructure.
- II. In 2005, Lewis-Clark State College implemented “Bluecoat Packet Shaper” to permit the college’s IT personnel to manage specific protocols utilized in peer-to-peer file sharing.
- III. IT personnel receive alerts from “Bluecoat Packet Shaper” that indicate which college computers are attempting access to peer-to-peer networks. The bandwidth has been limited to 1kb of usage for the peer-to-peer networks. This deterrent virtually makes it impossible to utilize the peer-to-peer networks and has resulted in users contacting IT.
- IV. When contact by an end-user has been made regarding the limited capacity of peer-to-peer file sharing networks, IT personnel advises the individuals of the college, state, and federal laws associated with illegal file sharing.
- V. Students are apprised of the college’s policies concerning illegal file sharing (and other inappropriate uses of technology) during a required new student orientation program. The policies are also published in the annual Student Handbook (<http://www.lcsc.edu/osl/Current%20Std%20Hdbk%20Conduct%20Code.pdf>) and are posted on the college’s web site.
- VI. “Bluecoat Packet Shaper” permits specific usage on legal alternatives to peer-to-peer file sharing. The legal alternative provided to Lewis-Clark State College technology user is “I-tunes” and “Amazon.” This information is shared routinely on student news boards via the student e-mail system and in some college classrooms.
- VII. Statements about criminal and civil liabilities, both state and federal, associated with illegal file sharing are communicated to students in the annual Student Handbook, during in-class presentations by IT personnel, during phone and e-mail consultations with IT personnel, and during the new student orientation program.
- VIII. This plan and its associated policies are reviewed annually by the Dean of Student Services and the Associate Director of Network and Digital Security.
- IX. Cases involving illegal file sharing are subject to disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct.