

Combating Illegal File Sharing
Lewis-Clark State College
(updated Spring 2011)

- 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 configure “Bluecoat Packet Shaper” to limit access to known peer-to-peer networks, under the assumption that the overwhelming majority of traffic from these sites is for sharing illegal content. The bandwidth has been limited to 1kb of usage for the peer-to-peer networks, making usage virtually impossible. Some students who realize they cannot transfer files have contacted 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 the IT department to allow file transfer from sites that have an academic purpose. For example, Apple iTunes is used for college course content. 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.
- X. Sanctions imposed for cases involving illegal file sharing may include warning, probation, suspension, and/or community service.
- XI. Lewis-Clark State College will not release the names of those who are found to have illegally downloaded or illegally shared protected material to outside agents or agencies unless required to do so by court order or subpoena.