

Sam Houston State University
A Member of The Texas State University System

Finance & Operations Information Resources Policy FO-IR-01
Computing Acceptable Use

Sam Houston State students, faculty, staff, and retirees are authorized to use the computing resources at SHSU. Access privileges to each of the SHSU systems may be enabled as described in appropriate system documentation as described on the university web site. Guest accounts may also be assigned for special uses.

The use of these systems is governed by the following rules and any violation of these rules may result in disciplinary actions, in accordance with The Texas State University System Rules and Regulations, as well as, possible legal actions.

The permission for use is granted to each user by SHSU for lawful non-commercial use of the computing and communications facilities and services of the university, including its computer systems, associated peripherals and files, telephone and network access, and microcomputers, according to rules that may be posted at the facilities and to the terms described herein.

This permission extends to the use of licensed software according to the regulations set forth herein by SHSU for the use of such software. The use of such software is governed by the terms of licensing agreements between the university and the software licensors, and the user must abide by the terms of those agreements. These software programs are proprietary and may therefore be subject to copyright or patent restrictions as defined in the license agreements. Users must not copy, disclose, transfer, or remove any proprietary programs from the media on which this software resides. Users must not use SHSU equipment or software to violate the terms of any copyright and/or software license agreement. Information on specific software licenses on all public computer systems can be obtained from the University Computer Services Department or other appropriate department.

Users must not use SHSU's computer systems, including any of its communications facilities and services, in any way which deliberately diminishes or interferes with the reasonable and private use of any system or resources, or which is intended to do same. System use must be in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. SHSU retains the right to inspect and/or remove, when necessary, as a function of responsible system management, all disk files stored on the university computing facilities. Users must not allow the use of their assigned computer resources by anyone else. The assigned user is the only person authorized to use the resource. The assigned user will be held responsible for any disruptive, destructive or illegal activity originating from their assigned resource and will be subject to university disciplinary action.

Upon violation or misuse of the computing facilities at SHSU, the university retains the right to deny future computing privileges. In addition any user found in violation may also be subject to further disciplinary action, as well as legal action under Section 1, Title 7, Chapter 33 of the Texas Penal Code, as well as legal action by the owners and licensors of proprietary software for violation of copyright laws and license agreements.

Reviewed by: Mark C. Adams, Associate Vice President for Information Resources – 11/01/2007
Next review: 11/01/2008