

What does "piracy" mean?

Piracy generally refers to the illegal duplication and distribution of copyrighted materials. There are four specific categories of piracy.

- **Pirate recordings** are the unauthorized duplication of legitimate sound or video recordings that do not include all the packaging, i.e., the original art, the label, title, sequencing, combination of titles, etc. This includes mixed recordings and compilation CDs featuring one or more artists.
- **Counterfeit recordings** are unauthorized duplication of either legitimate sound or video recordings including duplication of the original artwork, labeling, trademark, and packaging.
- **Bootleg recordings** (or underground recordings) are the unauthorized recordings of live concerts, movies currently in theaters, or musical broadcasts on radio or television.
- **Online piracy** is the unauthorized uploading or downloading of a copyrighted sound or video recording, or software through the Internet. Online piracy may also include certain uses of "streaming" technologies from the Internet.

Where can I go to legally download files?

There are many great subscription sites that allow students and others to pay for and legally download files.

- For up-to-date music sites, visit the RIAA Web site at:
  http://www.riaa.com
  Click on "Tools for Parents and Educators" and then click on the "Legal Music Sites" link.
- For movies and TV shows, visit:
  http://www.mpaa.org/contentprotection/get-movies-tv-shows

Where can I find more information about what's legal and what's not when downloading copyrighted files?

- **http://www.campusdownloading.com**
- **http://www.mpaa.org/contentprotection/copyright-info**
- **http://www.musicunited.org**
- **http://www.riaa.com**
- **http://www.theesa.com**

What is Cal State L.A.'s policy on this matter?

For information on Cal State L.A.'s Guidelines and Policies relating to protecting copyrighted material go to:

http://www.calstatela.edu/its/policies
and click on the "Protecting Copyrighted Material" link.

ITS Information Technology Services

ITS Help Desk
Library Palmer Wing Lobby
(323) 343-6170

http://www.calstatela.edu/its
e-mail: helpdesk@calstatela.edu



Illegal Downloading and Piracy

What Students Need to Know!

ITS Information Technology Services

What you do now, could affect your future.

DON'T ILLEGALLY DOWNLOAD!

It could cost you more than you think.

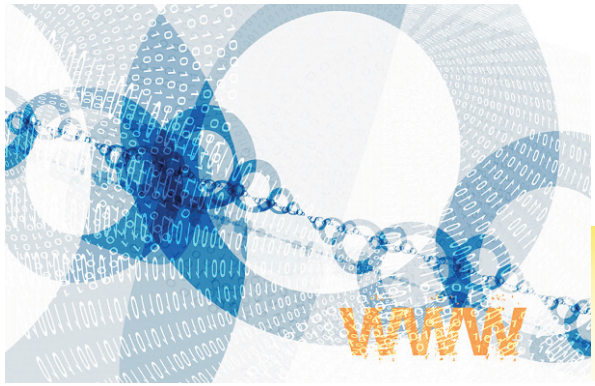
Who are the RIAA, MPAA, and ESA?

The Recording Industry Association of America, Inc. (RIAA), the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), and the Entertainment Software Association (ESA) are trade associations whose member companies create, manufacture, and distribute approximately 90 percent of all legitimate music, film, and television recordings, and computer and video games sold in the United States. They are authorized to act on behalf of their member companies in matters involving the infringement of the music, visual arts and software industries, including enforcing their copyrights and common law rights on the Internet.

Why is piracy such a big deal?

According to RIAA, MPAA, and ESA many people don't understand the significant negative impact of piracy on the industry. Estimates indicate economic losses in excess of $20 billion annually. Millions of American jobs rely on healthy music, visual arts, and software industries.

Consumers lose too because pirating drives up the costs of legitimate products for everyone. Honest retailers lose because they can't compete with the prices offered by illegal vendors. Creative artists lose royalties and fees, and sometimes their reputations due to inferior quality of pirated copies. Even pirates lose because the RIAA, MPAA, ESA, and law enforcement are cracking down; those who do the crime now do the time.



Illegal Downloading, It's against the law!

How will the University know if I download music, videos, games, or software?

To protect both our students and network resources, the University constantly utilizes tools designed to detect and deter the transmission of large files. If these files were allowed to traverse the campus network, it would not only impact network traffic, but also interrupt instructional programs and represent a misuse of scarce state-provided network bandwidth.

Has the University been contacted by agencies regarding downloading incidents?

Yes. And the University has been successful in identifying the responsible individual in each case.

What are the legal penalties?

Online infringement of copyrighted materials can be punishable by up to 3 years in prison and $250,000 in fines. Repeat offenders can be imprisoned up to 6 years. Individuals may also be held civilly liable, regardless of whether the activity is for profit, for actual damages or lost profits, or for statutory damages up to $150,000 per infringed copyright.

What action will the University take against me if I'm caught downloading or sharing illegal files?

Cal State L.A. takes copyright violations seriously. When the University receives an RIAA/MPAA/ESA or other copyright notification of unauthorized downloading, immediate action is taken. The notification includes specific information about the date, time, network address, and port where the violation occurred. Information Technology Services (ITS) checks the network logs for the account used during the violation time period.

Once the student is identified, the information is referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer. Their role is to counsel students about copyright laws in order to prevent further incidents and possible personal liabilities. The Judicial Affairs Officer forwards a copy of the infringement notification to the student and takes any other actions as deemed appropriate.



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Information provided here is part of our effort to make you aware.