

McNeese State University
INTERNET USE POLICY
(Revised July 13, 2009)

McNeese State University (MSU) provides local and network access to its employees for the express purpose of facilitating MSU business and services.

MSU benefits through the business-related access, exploration and appropriate dissemination of Internet-based information and technology. Unlawful, unprofessional or unethical use or misuse of this technology is prohibited. Electronic communication is fundamentally no different from any other form of communication and is subject to the same standards regarding form and content. No communication of any sort from this organization should contain anything which could be considered prejudicial or harassing.

It is the intent of MSU that electronic mail, internet resources and other electronic data be used by employees in furthering the educational mission of MSU. It is also the intent that academic and administrative departments have the opportunity to utilize the internet in support of their mission. For purposes of this policy, the term "Network Access" will refer to the act of gaining access to the internet for purposes of querying, viewing, downloading or copying any configuration of data.

MSU personnel are prohibited from utilizing MSU information resources for any unlawful, unethical, unprofessional or commercial purpose or activity. Examples of prohibited uses include but are not limited to:

1. any unauthorized access, monitoring, viewing, querying, distribution, plagiarism or copyright infringement of any configuration of data.
2. violation of software licensing agreements.
3. intentional access or dissemination of materials which can be considered pornographic.
4. advertising on staff, faculty or student web pages housed on MSU owned servers.
5. intentional damage to equipment, software or data.

MSU is committed to fostering on-line exchanges of information and communication conducive to the principles of collegiality and the educational mission of MSU. Any employee found to be in violation of the above prohibitions may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination, and in the case of illegal actions, referral to appropriate law enforcement agencies.

Federal law permits system administrators to access electronic mail. Although it is not common practice at MSU, the University reserves and will exercise the right to review, audit, intercept, access and disclose all matters on the University's electronic resources at any time, with or without employee notice, and that such access may occur during or after working hours. Any information submitted over the Network is insecure and could be observed by a third party while in transit.

If you are submitting passwords, credit numbers or other information that you would like to keep private, it would be safer for you to cancel the transmission.

By using the University computing and Network resources, each user implicitly accepts all stipulation in this policy and accepts full responsibility for his/her use and/or misuse of these resources. The university considers each user ultimately responsible for his/her actions, and does not accept liability for the individual. Each user must include appropriate notices that distinguish personal opinion from official university statements.

Procedures for maintenance of the MSU Official Home Page are located on the McNeese State University official homepage at www.mcneese.edu.

MSU employees communicating with any entity by using the provided internet access are responsible for reading, understanding, and adhering to the rules of service.

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