

DOWNLOADING MUSIC & ILLEGAL FILE SHARING



Under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998, California State University, Chico is required to take steps to expeditiously remove or disable access to any copyrighted material being shared illegally from within its network

Illegal file-sharing and other copyright violations are a violation of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

What is illegal file sharing?

Using file sharing programs such as LimeWire, BitTorrent, Ares, and eMule to share or obtain copyrighted music, movies, games, and other software without the permission of the copyright holder is illegal.

Organizations such as the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), the Entertainment Software Association (ESA), and others monitor file sharing systems on the Internet. When they discover an instance of illegal file sharing that is originating from within Chico State's network, they will send an official notice to the University. Upon receipt of this notice, the University must take action to stop copyright infringement from occurring on its network.

What are the consequences?

If you illegally share copyrighted files:

- **Your ResNet network privileges will be suspended.**
- **You may have to pay at least \$3,000 in a settlement with the copyright holder!**
- **Repeat offenders will face disciplinary action with Student Judicial Affairs.**

First-time offenders will be directed to a warning web page and will be notified via an email to his/her WildcatMail account. It will be your responsibility to follow the instructions on the warning page. Repeat offenders will lose their network privileges indefinitely and face further disciplinary action.

In addition to any action taken by the university, the organization that owns the copyright can also file legal charges. Penalties for illegal file sharing and downloading include jail time and fines of up to \$150,000 for each song, movie, or software product. This can happen even on the first offense! Don't take the risk!

What can I do to prevent illegal file sharing?

Use legal means of obtaining digital entertainment. Check out the Get Legal guide for ways to get music, movies and television on ResNet: <http://www.csuchico.edu/resnet/media/>

Avoid file sharing programs. The University strongly discourages the use of file sharing programs (such as LimeWire, BitTorrent, and Ares) because of the risk that the files being shared may be copyrighted. Additionally, many file sharing programs serve as distribution points for adware, spyware, Trojans, viruses, and other malicious programs. **Uninstall these programs before you arrive on campus!**

If you are concerned that your computer may be sharing copyrighted files, please contact the Student Computing helpdesk at:

**(530) 898-HELP
resnet@csuchico.edu**