

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF VERMONT

See also: VSC Policy 502: Computing & Telecommunications Technology Conditions of Use

COMPUTING NETWORK USE FOR RECREATIONAL OR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES POLICY

May 19, 2005

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POLICY

The Vermont State Colleges owns and maintains computing and telecommunications technologies to support the education, research, and daily work of its faculty, staff, and students. Policy 502, The VSC Computing and Telecommunications Technology Conditions of Use policy outlines permissible uses of the VSC network and computing and communications equipment. Access to this policy is made available to all members of the CCV community through the VSC portal.

This VSC policy states that the lowest priority of VSCnet computing resources is recreational and entertainment uses. More than minimal use of these resources for recreational and entertainment purposes is not permitted under this policy. The structure of the CCV network makes it difficult and costly to support extensive use of our network for recreational purposes.

PROCEDURES

Each CCV location is equipped with computers for students, instructors, and staff use. Priority is given to academic course work and administrative work-related uses.

1. Network-intensive applications
 - a. Many classes employ network-intensive applications as part of their curriculum. Use of graphic art design, architectural design, and music creation software programs are becoming commonplace in the networked environment and support of their academic use is an institutional priority. Internet protocol video conferencing between CCV offices and other VSC locations is a high network-intensive priority.
 - b. Recreational and entertainment uses of network-intensive applications cannot be supported in this environment. Examples of unsupported network-intensive uses include, but are not limited to: Downloads and use of recreational media (via legal and illegal sources); accessing Internet games and; accessing Internet sites for purposes other than academic uses. Suspected incidents of recreational or entertainment use will be investigated according to the standards and procedures outlined in VSC Policy 502.
 - c. Individuals who use CCV computers for recreational and entertainment network-intensive applications will be asked to stop. Repeat instances are regarded as exceeding the minimal use provision of the VSC Conditions of Use policy and persistent offenders may be disciplined as outlined in the Compliance section of Policy 502. This may include loss of access privileges to CCV computing resources, suspension, or termination of enrollment or employment.

2. Electronic communications

- a. Electronic mail applications are provided for staff use for work-related purposes. Recreational use of email is given the lowest priority. Staff and students are cautioned to consider suspicious email carefully before opening in the event that email or attachments may be infected by a virus.
- b. The learning management system enables online learning communications through discussion forums, access to shared documents for academic purposes, and access to VSC community portals. These uses are given high priority for network support.
- c. Recreational and entertainment use of communications (email, instant messaging, chat rooms) are low priority uses. Students who use CCV computers for recreational communications may be asked to give up their seat at a computer in favor of a student with an academic computing need.

3. Connecting personal-owned computers to the CCV network

- a. Students, staff and faculty members may connect personal-owned computing devices to the CCV wireless network, for academic purposes, with college permission. Personal-owned computers are governed by the same recreational and entertainment standards as outlined in this policy.
- b. If a computer can only connect to a network through hard wire connections (has no wireless card or a CCV location has no wireless access), the computer user must consult with local site manager for instructions to approve a personal computer for network connections.
- c. Connecting to the CCV network with a non-certified laptop may result in termination of enrollment or employment.
- d. CCV IT Services reserves the right to revoke network connection privileges at any time for any reason.