

This message is sent to the RIT Community on behalf of Ellen Granberg, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, and James Watters, Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration

Acceptable Use of RIT Computer and Network Resources

Welcome to the start of a new academic year at RIT. As you renew or activate your RIT computer account and network connection(s), it is our responsibility to remind you of RIT's policy regarding the use of the RIT computers and network resources. The computing, network and information resources of RIT are intended to support the university's mission of teaching, learning, and scholarly activity for students, faculty and staff. Appropriate use of computing and networking facilities by members of RIT's academic community should always reflect academic honesty and good judgment in the utilization of shared resources, and observe the ethical and legal guidelines of our larger society.

RIT's computer and network facilities provide access to a wide variety of on-campus and off-campus resources. The privilege of access requires individual users to act in an ethical manner and imposes certain responsibilities and obligations. It is the responsibility of every user to respect the rights, privacy, and intellectual property of others, respect the integrity of resources and abide by all policy, regulation, and applicable law. It is important that:

- All RIT computer account users comply with RIT policies and procedures regarding the appropriate use of computing and networking facilities including [RIT Policy C08.1](#), RIT Information Security Policy, and [RIT Policy C08.2](#), Code of Conduct for Computer Use and Network Use.
- All RIT computer account users comply with copyright laws. RIT computer account users must not distribute copyrighted or proprietary material without the written consent of the copyright holder, nor violate US copyright or patent laws. This includes any form of peer-to-peer sharing of copyrighted music, movies or software.
- All RIT computer account users also comply with other university policies, including (but not limited to) the university's policies on [privacy](#), [intellectual property](#), and [prohibition of discrimination and harassment](#) of any kind, while using RIT network resources.
- No member of the RIT community may use an RIT computing account or any communications equipment that is owned or maintained by RIT to run a business, promote commercially-related activities, or conduct fundraising to solicit for events that have no direct relationship to RIT's mission without prior review and approval of the Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration. See Section II - Policy Statement, under Personal and Commercial Use of the Code of Conduct for Computer and Network Use for examples. This includes sending communications about such activities to email distribution lists such as RITSTAFF or through the RIT Message Center. The use of these lists for any non-RIT purpose requires the permission of the Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration.
- Email communications with government officials must abide by RIT's guidelines for political activities as outlined in [RIT Policy C10.0](#), Guidelines Concerning Political and Legislative Activities on Campus.

RIT reserves the right to audit all computers connected to the RIT network to determine compliance with RIT policies and procedures. Any user of the network who violates any RIT policy or procedure including, but not limited to, the [Code of Conduct for Computer and Network Use](#) can be sanctioned. Students, faculty and staff can contact the ITS Service Desk via email (servicedesk@rit.edu) or telephone (585-475-4357, -2810 TTY) with questions concerning the use of computing and network resources at RIT.

The [RIT Code of Conduct for Computer and Network Use](#) applies to all RIT students, faculty and staff while using RIT computer systems or systems connected to the RIT network. Suspected violations of the Code of Conduct should be reported to the email address abuse@rit.edu.