

Heritage University and Compliance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act

Peer-to-Peer File Sharing

Background

H.R 4137, the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA), is a reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. It includes provisions that are designed to reduce the illegal uploading and downloading of copyrighted works through peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing. These provisions include requirements that:

- Institutions certify to the Secretary of Education that they have developed plans to “effectively combat” the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material.
- Institutions, “to the extent practicable,” offer alternatives to illegal file sharing.

Disclosure

- The Higher Education Opportunity Act requires that Institutions make an annual disclosure that informs students that the illegal distribution of copyrighted materials may subject them to criminal and civil penalties and describes the steps that institutions will take to detect and punish illegal distribution of copyrighted materials.

Downloading, copying and sharing material, such as music, movies, games, and applications, for which the copyright holder has not given you rights is against the law and may be subject to Civil and criminal liabilities.

Additionally, such activity is not permitted by the Heritage University Acceptable Use Policy for computing resources. Violators are subject to disciplinary action.

The installation or use of any peer-to-peer, music downloading or other file sharing software, of any kind, on any Heritage University computer is strictly prohibited unless pre-approved in writing by the Director of the Department of information Technology.

Combating the Unauthorized Distribution of Copyrighted Material

Heritage University blocks by firewall Peer –2– Peer applications whenever possible.

Additionally, the University routinely monitors traffic patterns. If unusually high usage is encountered we make every effort to determine its source, insure that it is authorized and for legal purposes. Unauthorized, illegal or P2P downloads are terminated immediately.

Please note that while Heritage University does not support the downloading of music on its systems, we have provided below a sample list of music sites from which music and other content may be downloaded legally off campus.

- Amazon MP3 Downloads
- AOL Music
- Best Buy
- BET
- Blockbuster Online
- CBS Video
- Comedy Central Video
- Discovery Channel Videos
- Disney Videos
- eMusic.com
- ESPN360
- Fancast
- FOX on Demand
- FX Networks Video
- GameFly
- Hulu Movies & TV
- iLike
- IMDb Video
- iTunes Movies, Music, & TV
- Joost Movies & TV
-
- Latinoise
- LifeWay Music
- Liquid Digital Media
- MovieFlix
- MP3.com
- MTV Video
- Music Millennium
- MusicRebellion
- MySpace Music
- Napster
- NBC Video
- Netflix Movies & TV
- Pandora
- Rhapsody
- South Park Episode Player
- TV.com
- VH1 Videos
- Walmart Movies & TV
- Walmart MP3 Music Downloads
- Xbox Live Marketplace
- Yahoo! Music