



COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT POLICY

Any copyright infringement (unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material), including peer-to-peer file sharing using the College network, is strictly prohibited. Anyone caught violating copyright laws may be subject to **sanction** including, but not limited to, loss of College network and computer privileges, suspension, and termination. This policy is included in Premiere College's Code of Conduct Policy. Copyright infringement may subject violator to civil and criminal liabilities.

Copyright Infringement is the act of exercising, without permissions or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement.

Premiere Career College (PCC) affirms our commitment to comply with the United States law pertaining to intellectual property law; to respect the property rights of the authors and their assignees; to educate members of the campus communities about copyright law; and to exercise vigorously the rights and responsibilities granted under this law. This policy applies to all associates, faculty and students of PCC.

Criminal and Civil Penalties:

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or "statutory" damages affixed at not less than \$750 and not more than \$30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to \$150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorney's fees. For details see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505.

Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to \$250,000 per offense.

For more information, please see the website of the U.S. Copyright Office at www.copyright.gov, especially their FAQs at www.copyright.gov/help/faq.

The College encourages students to seek legal alternatives to copyright infringement. Students should check with services and websites to ensure that content acquired through that site does not violate copyright law.