



Policy Title: GE2006 - Copyrighted Materials, Use of

Subject Area: General

Responsible Official(s): University Counsel

Responsible Office(s): Legal Counsel

Policy Statement

The University of Memphis faculty, staff, and students must comply with the United States Copyright Law of 1976, as amended (Title 17 USC, hereinafter "Copyright Act") regarding the use of copyrighted materials, whether in the performance of official employment duties or when using University resources, including University information technology resources. The purpose of this policy is to inform members of the University community about their obligations under the copyright laws of the United States, and to provide information regarding University resources available to assist them with copyright compliance issues.

Policy

Compliance

1. Copyrighted materials, including but not limited to books, journal articles, video or audio recordings, photographs, software, etc. may be copied or otherwise reproduced, including digital reproduction, without permission of the copyright owner(s) only if the use meets the requirements for "Fair Use" or "Classroom Performance or Display", as provided in the Copyright Act, or in the recent amendment to the Copyright Act known as the Technology, Education and Copyright Harmonization ("TEACH") Act.
2. Specific questions regarding copyright compliance should be directed to the University's Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) at legalcounsel@memphis.edu. Employees may also contact the OLC for information regarding use of copyright materials in the performance of official employment duties.
3. Failure to comply with applicable copyright laws may result in employment discipline, up to and including termination, or, in the case of students, referral to the Office of Student Accountability for disciplinary action, including termination of access to internet services and/or other serious sanctions, up to and including suspension.

4. Copyright infringement may result in personal liability for an individual infringer. Employees who make a good faith effort to comply with the terms of this policy may be represented by the Tennessee Attorney General's Office in the event of a claim of infringement resulting from the performance of official employment duties.

Claims of Infringement

As provided for in the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, the University has a registered agent to whom claims of infringement should be directed. Notices of claimed infringement must contain the information required by the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, Title II, Section 512(c).

FAQs

Who is the University of Memphis' Registered Agent?

University Counsel, Office of Legal Counsel, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN 38152, (901) 678-2155 (phone), legalcounsel@memphis.edu

Related Documents, Policies and Forms

<https://www.copyright.gov/>

Last Revision Update Log: 09/17/2025

UM1483 – Issued: July 31, 2007 – supercedes policy number 1:2A:03:02
Updated: January 31, 2006
UM1483 – Issued: April 14, 2003
GE2006 supercedes UM1484