

Computer Software Copyright

(From A08.01.01 College Use of Copyrighted Works, Procedures/Rules Statement, 6. Computer Programs)

Policy Statement

A public institution such as Douglas College must act within the law. As such, the College will seek to ensure that its employees are aware of the terms of copyright law, and take all reasonable steps, as indicated by the following procedures and regulations, to ensure that its employees do not knowingly break the law.

Computer Programs

Employees are not to use unlawfully duplicated computer programs for instructional or administrative purposes

CEIT will maintain a record of all software and software licenses, and will sanction the use of College equipment to ensure compliance with the various license agreements.

Borrowers of College owned computer software or equipment will be required to sign an acknowledgment that the equipment will not be used to infringe or violate the Canadian Copyright Act.

Under the Copyright Act of Canada, a computer program is specifically given copyright protection as a literary work and it is an infringement of copyright to produce the work or any substantial part of the work in any material form, including copying onto a hard or floppy disk.

It is College Policy that no member of the faculty, staff or student body of the College shall make an unauthorized copy or reproduce any portion of any computer program or use unauthorized copies of software either on computers owned by the College or on personally owned computers located on College property or College related facilities.

Without restricting any action the College may take, any member of the College community who breaches the Copyright Act of Canada with respect to computer software copyright is subject to action by the owner of the work protected under the Act.

No-compliance with copyright law is a serious offense and both the individual breaching the law, and the College, can be held liable to significant fines and other punishments. The College will take disciplinary actions, in accordance with the various Collective Agreements, against any employee who knowingly breaches copyright laws.

CEIT staff will help you in determining the limitation of your particular software agreement, although responsibility for compliance will be entirely yours. Should you require assistance, please call 527-5330.