

Copyright Infringement - Policies and Sanctions

Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission 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 rights 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.

In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright 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 attorneys' 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.

Computer Use and File Sharing Policy

Shear Finesse Hairstyling Academy Computer Use and File Sharing Policy requires users of the school's computer resources to comply with copyright laws. If you use a P2P (Peer-to-Peer) program on any school computer, network or other resource to upload or download copyrighted material without permission, you may be in breach of the Policy. All users should generally assume that material is copyrighted unless they know otherwise, and not copy, download or distribute copyrighted material without permission unless the use does not exceed fair use as defined by the federal Copyright Act of 1976."

This policy also requires users of the school's computer resources to engage in safe computing practices. P2P and file-sharing programs can introduce a serious security risk to your computer and other computers connected to the same network since they may result in files infected with computer viruses and spy-ware being downloaded to your computer and the network.

Violation of the Computer Use and File sharing Policy

Shear Finesse Hairstyling Academy policy prohibits unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing. Students who violate this policy are subject to discipline under Shear Finesse Hairstyling Student Conduct standards, outlined in the school's catalog.