

**Students: Student Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Agreement - Policy 540**

**Edwardsville Community Unit District #7  
Student Computer and Internet Acceptable Use Agreement**

**Please read this document carefully before signing.**

Internet access is now available on a limited basis to students and teachers in the Edwardsville District #7 schools. We are very pleased to bring this access to the district and believe the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and staff. Our goal in providing this service to teachers and students is to promote educational excellence in our district schools by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers world-wide and millions of individual users. Students and staff have access to:

1. Limited electronic mail communication with people all over the world.
2. Information and news from government sources, research institutions, and other sources.
3. Public domain software and shareware of all types.
4. Selected discussion groups on a wide range of topics.
5. Many public and private libraries, the Library of Congress, and the Educational Resources Information Clearinghouses (ERIC).

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of a school setting. On a global network it is impossible to control all materials, and an industrious user may discover controversial information. We (Edwardsville CUSD #7) firmly believe that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the goals of the district.

Life is a series of choices and consequences. Edwardsville has chosen to make Internet resources available to students, and the consequence is that they will have access to far more information than if they had to rely on their school's library. If a student chooses to use these resources for finding information that will be of assistance in learning, the consequence will be continued access to the Internet. If an Edwardsville CUSD #7 student chooses to access resources that are objectionable, adult-oriented, or restricted, the consequence will be suspension or termination of access privileges. The signatures at the end of this document indicate each party who signed has read the terms of conditions and understands their significance.

## **Computer and Internet Terms and Conditions**

1. **Acceptable Use** - The original purpose of the Internet was, and large still is, to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the United States by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of school computers must support education and research that is consistent with goals of Edwardsville CUSD #7. Use of another organization's network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any US or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. See Copyright Law Addendum and Illinois Computer Crime Law Addendum.
2. **Use is a Privilege** - The use of the Network is a privilege which may be revoked by the District at any time and for any reason. Appropriate reasons for revoking privileges include, but are not limited to, the altering of system software, the placing of unauthorized information, computer viruses or harmful programs on or through the computer system in either public or private files or messages. The District reserves the right to move file, limit or deny access, and refer the student for other disciplinary actions.
3. **District ownership** - The District reserves all rights to any material stored in files which are generally accessible to others and will remove any material which the District, at its sole discretion, believes may be unlawful, obscene, pornographic, abusive, or otherwise objectionable. Students will not use their District-approved computer account access to obtain, view, download, or otherwise gain access to such materials.
4. **Private Use** - All information services and features contained on District or Network resources are intended for the private use of its registered users and any use of these resources for commercial-for-profit or other unauthorized purposes (i.e., advertisements, political lobbying), in any form, is expressly forbidden.
5. **Responsibility** - The District and/or Network resources are intended for the exclusive use by their registered users. The Student is responsible for the use of their account/password and/or access privileges. Any problems which arise from the sue of a Student's account are the responsibility of the account holder. Use of an account by someone other than the registered account holder is forbidden and may be grounds for loss of access privileges.
6. **File transfer** - The Student may transfer files from information services and electronic bulletin board services. For each file received through a file transfer, the Student agrees to check the file with a virus-detection program before opening the file for use. Should the Student transfer a file, shareware, or software which infects the Network with a virus and causes damage, the student will be liable for

any and all repair costs to make the Network one again fully operational and may be subject to other disciplinary measure as determined by the District.

7. **Misuse of Account** - Any misuse of the account will result in suspension of the account privileges and/or other disciplinary action determined by the District. Abuse shall include, but not be limited to:
  - a) intentionally seeking information on, obtaining copies of, or modifying files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users
  - b) misrepresenting other users on the Network
  - c) disrupting the operation of the Network through abusing the hardware or software
  - d) malicious use of the Network through hate mail, harassment, profanity, vulgar statements, or discriminatory remarks
  - e) interfering with others use of the Network
  - f) extensive use for noncurriculum-related communication
  - g) illegal installation of copyrighted software
  - h) unauthorized down-sizing, copying, or use of licensed or copyright of software
  - i) allowing anyone to use an account other than the account holder
  - j) using more than 10 megabytes of server disk space
  
8. **Purposes** - The use of District and/or Network resources are for the purpose of (in order of priority):
  - a) support of the academic program
  - b) telecommunications
  - c) general information
  - d) recreational
  
9. **Network Etiquette** - Users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a) Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others.
  - b) Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
  - c) Do not reveal personal addresses, phone numbers, or passwords of students, teachers, administrators, or other staff of Edwardsville CUSD #7, including yourself.
  - d) Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to authorities.
  - e) Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by others.
  - f) All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property (i.e., copyrighted).
  - g) Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, and other antisocial behaviors are prohibited on the network. Therefore, any messages should

not contain profanity, obscene comments, sexually explicit material, expressions of bigotry or hate.

- h) Student subscriptions to electronic mailing lists are not allowed on Edwardsville CUSD #7 accounts.
  - i) From time to time, Edwardsville CUSD #7 system administrators will make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are consistent with the acceptable use practice.
10. **Accuracy of Information** - Use of any information obtained by the Internet is at your own risk. Edwardsville CUSD #7 specifically denies any responsibility for accuracy or quality of information obtained through District accounts. Information (including text, graphics, video, etc.) from Internet sources used in student papers and reports should be cited the same as references to printed materials.
11. **Security** - Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem on the Internet, you must notify a teacher or a principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Users shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the network. Attempts to gain unauthorized access to system programs or computer equipment will result in cancellation of user privileges. Downloading of information onto the hard drives of Edwardsville CUSD #7 computers is prohibited; all downloads must be to floppy disk. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to District computers.
12. **Vandalism** - Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges as well as other sanctions cited in the Student Handbook. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm, modify, or destroy computer hardware, data of another user, Internet, or any of the other networks that are connected to the Internet backbone. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. See Illinois Computer Crime Law Addendum.
13. **Inappropriate Use** - Edwardsville CUSD #7 teachers and administrators will deem what is inappropriate use, and their decision is subject only to confirmation by the Edwardsville CUSD #7 Board of Education. The administration, faculty, and staff of Edwardsville CUSD #7 may request the suspension or termination of computer use of any user who violates these acceptable use practices.

**Edwardsville CUSD #7**  
**Acceptable Use Agreement**

**Student**

I understand and will abide by the above Acceptable Use Agreement. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action may be instituted.

Student name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or Guardian**

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Use Agreement. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I recognize it is impossible for Edwardsville CUSD #7 to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the District or any of its personnel responsible for materials acquired on the network. Further, I accept responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use of downloaded material is not in a school setting. I hereby give my permission to allow Internet access for my child.

Parent or Guardian name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Information**

For additional information about Edwardsville CUSD #7 technology programs, to seek answers to specific questions regarding this Acceptable Use Agreement, please contact any Building Principal.

Dr. Lynda Andre  
Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
Edwardsville CUSD #7

Adopted by the Edwardsville CUSD #7 Board of Education on January 24, 1997.