

auxiliary services section IV

AR 4.4 technology resource standards

Introduction

The Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) provides its students, employees, Governing Board members and the public with access to information resources and technologies. MCCCD recognizes that the free exchange of opinions and ideas is essential to academic freedom, and the advancement of educational, research, service, operational, and management purposes, is furthered by making these resources accessible.

Arizona constitutional and statutory mandates requires that MCCCD resources, including technology, be used only for the public's business, and not for private purposes. Those mandates apply to all MCCCD public officials—employees of every kind and the Governing Board. The aim of those laws is to safeguard the use of resources, including technology resources, acquired and maintained with public funds. Compliance with other laws—both federal and state—also dictates the need for standards for the use of MCCCD technology resources. In some cases, the Governing Board policies emphasize the importance of compliance with the law such as the requirement to adhere to copyright laws. Governing Board policies also establish MCCCD's own standards, such as the directive that all persons within the MCCCD community be treated in a manner that is humane, fair and dignified.

This administrative regulations established standards for the use of MCCCD technology resources. They should be seen as supplementing, and not in lieu of, Governing Board policy, applicable law and other applicable administrative regulations such as Administrative Regulation 4.3 "Electronic Communications."

General Responsibilities

Technology resources (including, but not limited to, desktop and laptop systems, printers, central computing facilities, MCCCD-wide or college-wide networks, local-area networks, telephones, facsimile machines, scanners, access to the Internet, electronic mail and similar electronic devices and information) of the MCCCD are available to MCCCD Governing Board members, employees, students and, in a limited number of cases, MCCCD contractors and the public. Use of all those resources is subject to the standards set forth in this regulation (Standards).

The first screen that each MCCCD computer exhibits on starting up advises users of these Standards and requires an acknowledgment before the user may proceed to the next screen. Additionally, all MCCCD employees are responsible for annually acknowledging receipt of the Blue Book, which contains this regulation. So all users of MCCCD technology resources are presumed to have read and understood the Standards. While the Standards govern use of technology resources MCCCD-wide, an individual community college or center may establish guidelines for technology resource usage that supplement, but do not replace or waive, these Standards.

Use of Non-MCCCD Technology

Under Arizona's public records law, MCCCD is required to transact business so that its records are accessible and retrievable. The policy underlying the law is that work done in the name of the public be transparent. Thus, any member of the public may request public records and, except in a few specific instances, are entitled to get copies of them.

Each individual employee or Governing Board member is responsible for ensuring that MCCCD records that he or she initiates or receives are retained for the period of time required by and disposed of according to mandates established by Arizona State Libaray, Archives and Public Records—the state agency tasked with setting standards for record retention. Therefore, an employee's or Governing Board member's use of non-MCCCD technology resources for communication of any type of MCCCD business is heavily discouraged because those records are less capable of being managed according to

auxiliary services section IV

AR 4.4 technology resource standards

MCCCD's process for ensuring retention, retrieval and disclosure set forth in Administrative Regulation 4.15 "Retrieval, Disclosure and Retention of Records."

Additionally, an MCCC employee who receives a communication allegedly from another MCCC employee using a non-MCCC e-mail address is not required to respond substantively to that e-mail. The employee receiving the e-mail is entitled to verify that the sender is whom he or she says that he or she is. The employee receiving the e-mail may request that the sender provide the information or inquiry set forth in the e-mail via hard-copy form.

Acceptable Use

Use of MCCC's technology resources, including websites created by MCCC employees and students, is limited to educational, research, service, operational and management purposes of the MCCC and its member institutions. Likewise, data, voice, images and links to external sites posted on or transmitted via MCCC's technology resources are limited to the same purposes.

Frequently, access to MCCC's technology resources can be obtained only through use of a password known exclusively to the MCCC employees, Governing Board members or students. It is those users' responsibility to keep a password confidential. While MCCC takes reasonable measures to ensure network security, it cannot be held accountable for unauthorized access to its technology resources by other persons, both within and outside the MCCC community. Moreover, it cannot guarantee employees, Governing Board members and students protection against reasonable failures. Finally, under certain limited circumstances defined in Administrative Regulation 4.15 "Retrieval, Disclosure and Retention of Records," certain MCCC employees are authorized to access information on an MCCC technology device.

It is not Maricopa's practice to monitor the content of electronic mail transmissions, files, images, links or other data stored on or transmitted through Maricopa's technology resources. The maintenance, operation and security of Maricopa's technology resources, however, require that network administrators and other authorized personnel have access to those resources and, on occasion, review the content of data and communications stored on or transmitted through those resources. Any other review may be performed exclusively by persons expressly authorized for such purpose and only for cause. To the extent possible in the electronic environment and in a public setting, a user's privacy will be honored. Nevertheless, that privacy is subject to Arizona's public records laws and other applicable state and federal laws, as well as policies of Maricopa's Governing Board all of which may supersede a user's interests in maintaining privacy in information contained in Maricopa's technology resources.

Incidental Computer and Technology Usage

Limited incidental personal use of MCCC technology resources including through use of personal e-mail systems is permitted, except as described in item 16 under "Prohibited Conduct." MCCC employees are responsible for exercising good judgment about personal use in accordance with this regulation, Colleges' consistent local guidelines and MCCC ethical standards. Personal use refers to activities which only affect the individual and that are not related to an employee's outside business. MCCC employees are required to conduct themselves in a manner which will not raise concern that they are or might be engaged in acts in violations of the public trust. Refer to the Guidelines for Incidental Computer Usage for the Maricopa Community Colleges (Appendix AS-8) and Guidelines for Incidental Telephone Usage for the Maricopa Community Colleges (Appendix AS-9).

auxiliary services section IV

AR 4.4 technology resource standards (cont'd)

Prohibited Conduct

The following is prohibited conduct in the use of MCCC'D's technology resources:

1. Posting to the network, downloading or transporting any material that would constitute a violation of MCCC'D contracts
2. Unauthorized attempts to monitor another user's password protected data or electronic communication, or delete another user's password protected data, electronic communications or software, without that person's permission
3. Installing or running on any system a program that is intended to or is likely to result in eventual damage to a file or computer system
4. Performing acts that would unfairly monopolize technology resources to the exclusion of other users, including (but not limited to) unauthorized installation of server system software
5. Hosting an unauthorized website that violates the .EDU domain request.
6. Use of technology resources for non-MCCC'D commercial purposes, including to advertise personal services, whether or not for financial gain.
7. Use of software, graphics, photographs, or any other tangible form of expression that would violate or infringe any copyright or similar legally-recognized protection of intellectual property rights.
8. Activities that would constitute a violation of any policy of MCCC'D's Governing Board, including, but not limited to, MCCC'D's non-discrimination policy and its policy against sexual harassment.
9. Transmitting, storing, or receiving data, or otherwise using technology resources in a manner that would constitute a violation of state or federal law, or MCCC'D policy or administrative regulation including, but not limited to, obscenity, defamation, threats, harassment, and theft.
10. Attempting to gain unauthorized access to a remote network or remote computer system.
11. Exploiting any technology resources by attempting to prevent or circumvent access, or using unauthorized data protection schemes.
12. Performing any act that would disrupt normal operations of computers, workstations, terminals, peripherals, or networks.
13. Using technology resources in such a way as to wrongfully hide the identity of the user or pose as another person.
14. Allowing any unauthorized access to MCCC'D's technology and non-technology resources.
15. Making personal long distance or other toll calls, except where the charges for the calls are incurred directly by the caller or arrangements are otherwise made at the time of the call to directly bill the caller.
16. Intermittent use of technology resources that interferes with the performance of an employee's main responsibilities.
17. Use of technology resources to market or conduct other activities on behalf of a third-party regarding the "hosting" of an event that is prohibited under MCCC'D's Use of College Facilities administrative regulation.
18. Conducting District or college-related business using any electronic mail account other than one hosted or provided by MCCC'D, and approved by the Vice Chancellor of Information Technology Services, even when the e-mail account copies all outgoing and incoming messages to the MCCC'D hosted account.
19. Deleting or altering a technology public record in violation of public records retention requirements, or in anticipation of receiving or after receipt of a public records request, subpoena or a complaint filed as part of an MCCC'D grievance, investigation or review, or other lawful request for the record.
20. Deleting or altering a technology record on an MCCC'D device in anticipation or after receipt of a public records request, subpoena or a complaint filed as part of an MCCC'D grievance, investigation or review, or other lawful request for the records where the record may demonstrate a misuse of technology resources under this regulation.

auxiliary services section IV

AR 4.4 technology resource standards (cont'd)

Review and Approval of Alternate E-Mail Account Systems

The prior review and approval by the Vice Chancellor of Information Technology is required for the implementation of alternate College electronic mail account systems. Requests will be evaluated based upon the following considerations:

1. The system must be compatible and interoperable with the MCCCCD e-mail system. All information within the e-mail system must meet the standards and authorize District Office access as specified in Administrative Regulation 4.15, "Retrieval, Disclosure and Retention of Records."
2. Any proposed changes to an MCCCCD's entity's e-mail system with e-discovery implications must be approved in advance during the planning stages as specified in Administrative Regulation 4.15, "Retrieval, Disclosure and Retention of Records."

Disclaimer

The home page of an MCCCCD web site must display, or link to, the following disclaimer in a conspicuous manner:

All information published online by MCCCCD is subject to change without notice. MCCCCD is not responsible for errors or damages of any kind resulting from access to its internet resources or use of the information contained therein. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information presented as factual; however errors may exist. Users are directed to countercheck facts when considering their use in other applications. MCCCCD is not responsible for the content or functionality of any technology resource not owned by the institution.

The statements, comments, or opinions expressed by users through use of Maricopa's technology resources are those of their respective authors, who are solely responsible for them, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Maricopa County Community College District.

Information Accuracy and Marketing Standards

In order to help ensure that the most accurate information sources are reflected on web pages, information should be cited, sourced or linked from the website of the official District or college custodian responsible for the particular subject. In addition, the design of web pages shall reflect established marketing standards with respect to the imaging and using of MCCCCD marks as outlined in the marketing standards handbook and Use of Marks administrative regulation.

Complaints and Violations

Complaints or allegations of a violation of these standards will be processed through Maricopa's articulated grievance procedures or resolution of controversy.

Upon determination of a violation of these standards, MCCCCD may unilaterally delete any violative content and terminate the user's access to MCCCCD's technology resources. It is the user's responsibility to demonstrate and/or establish the relevance of content in the event that a content complaint is made official. Users retain the right to appeal actions through MCCCCD's grievance procedures or resolution of controversy.

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