

Computer Resources

Updated: 10/09/2014

Computers are available for use by all currently enrolled and alumni students who show proper identification.

Current students are required to visibly wear student ID's when using computers on campus.

Alumni who are visiting the institution must obtain an Alumni RMU ID.

It is each user's responsibility to ensure that any electronic media (laptop computers, electronic files, floppy disks, USB flash drives, cell phones, external hard drives, PDAs, etc...) brought on campus is free from viruses and/or other malicious software.

Students and Alumni can use any computer center at any branch. The scheduled hours may vary by campus.

Usage Policies

Attempting to access other computer systems without authorization, posting commercial messages, transmitting viruses, or other invasive/malicious software is strictly prohibited.

The computer network is part of the RMU infrastructure with the purpose of supporting the University's teaching mission. When any use of the systems violate federal law, state law, or University policy, and/or presents a security risk, degrade system performances, and/or interrupts student/staff productivity, the network administrator may:

- Suspend or terminate users from the system;
- Request security to escort transgressors from the campus;
- Notify appropriate University officials or legal authorities.

All computer users must practice ethical behavior in their computing activities. Abuse of computer access privileges is a serious matter. The computing resources are provided for use by faculty, staff, and students who are currently enrolled in courses approved for or designated as requiring such resources, and returning alumni. Student privileges are not transferable to any individual or organization.

The theft or abuse of computer time or facilities is no different from the theft or abuse of other University property. Violators of those privileges will be subject to disciplinary action, including dismissal from the University and communication with legal authorities. Acceptance of these policies is automatic upon use of the RMU computer systems. The acceptable use policy covers, but is not limited to the following:

- Unauthorized reading of files;
- Unauthorized transfer, deletion, or modification of files;

- Unauthorized entry into any University network, system, or account;
- Use of the computer to interfere with the work of another student, faculty, or staff member, including but not limited to posting commercial messages, transmitting or attempting to transmit viruses or worms, and other malicious activities;
- Use of the University's computer facilities to send obscene, offensive, or abusive messages;
- Use of the computer facilities for non-academic activities during times of high demand;
- Unauthorized tampering with hardware in classrooms and laboratories;
- Use of Email, Blackboard, or other accounts without the owner's permission;
- Unauthorized modification to computer systems and/or the University's network for the purpose of degrading system performance, and/or interrupts student/staff productivity;
- Unauthorized monitoring of information across University networks.

The Internet is a fluid environment by nature, and it is not possible for the University to pre-approve the materials a student may find on it. Consequently, each student is expected to use judgment and care in accessing and distributing material available through this medium.

Use of the University's computer systems is made available to students for educational and research purposes only. Use of them for private business or non-educational functions violates the software agreements made to educational and nonprofit organizations and is not permitted.

Peer to Peer (P2P)

Peer-to-Peer file sharing (P2P) is prohibited at all Robert Morris University locations. This includes the illegal downloading and/or sharing of copyrighted materials, which includes music, games and videos. Both the U.S Copyright Act and Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998 prohibit the distribution or sharing of copyrighted work without the copyright owner's permission. Artists, writers, musicians and other creators of intellectual property rely upon copyright to protect their work.

Copyright Infringement Policy

If RMU determines that any user(s) has/have infringed on the copyrights of others at any of its locations, through the institutions network connection (wired or wireless), the user(s) will be contacted and appropriate action will be taken. Response(s) to any allegation(s) of copyright infringement will be handled in accordance with applicable law. Repeated infringement on the copyrights of others may result to computer usage privileges to be terminated and/or further academic probation.

Sanctions

Any computer that infringed on copyrights of others will be blocked from network access at any location until the method of how the infringement occurred has been removed. Offenders will have their computer usage limited and will be reported to University and/or legal authorities who may:

- Place the student on social probation;
- Dismiss the student from the University or disallow alumni from using RMU's computer resources;
- Take legal action

The University has the right to review and monitor all electronic messages received or originated within the University internal electronic communication system at any time and without notice.

