Residential Network Usage

Version 1.3	Last Updated: 8/08/2025
Security Level: Public	Issued: 8/15/2022

Purpose

The residential network (hereafter referred to as "ResNet") at Fitchburg State University allows residents of the University's resident halls and apartments to access network resources from their personal devices. This policy will guide users in the acceptable use of these systems at Fitchburg State. This policy complements the Fitchburg State <u>Acceptable Usage Policy</u> and the <u>Fitchburg State Student Code of Conduct</u>.

Scope

This policy applies to student usage of the University's ResNet. By connecting to the ResNet, residents assume personal responsibility for their appropriate use and agree to comply with this policy, other applicable University policies, as well as Commonwealth and Federal laws and regulations.

Policy

The ResNet at Fitchburg State provides a gateway to applications, servers, electronic messaging, and the Internet to our students in support of the University's mission of education, research, and public service.

Fitchburg State recognizes the importance of copyright and other protections afforded to the creators of intellectual property. Users are responsible for making use of software and other information technology resources in accordance with copyright and licensing restrictions and applicable University policies. Using information technology resources in a manner violating these protections or furthering the unauthorized use or sale of protected intellectual property is prohibited.

Fitchburg State cannot protect individuals against the receipt of potentially offensive material. Those who use electronic communications may receive material that they might find offensive. Those who make personal information available about themselves through the Internet or other electronic media may expose themselves to potential invasions of privacy and increased security attacks.

There are many users who share this resource, and respect for the rights and needs of others is central to this policy. Accordingly, the following activities are strictly prohibited:

Downloading or sharing copyrighted material without the express consent of the copyright

owner. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Music
- Movies
- Software

Operating network services, including, but not limited to:

- □ DHCP
- SMTP
- **DNS**
- M HTTP/S Websites

Other activities that are prohibited:

- Using ResNet for commercial purposes
- Crypto mining
- Installing or operating personal wireless access points, range extenders, antennas, or routers
- Using a name that makes a system appear to be a university-owned or operated device
- Using offensive or profane language in the system name
- Sending or relaying unsolicited bulk email messages
- Any other activity that disrupts the operation of ResNet
- Use of electronic devices that invade a person's privacy

Support

The Technology Department will assist residents in connecting their computers to the ResNet. The system connecting to ResNet must run a manufacturer-supported operating system that receives current security updates.

The computer's operating system must have all applicable security and critical patches applied. Microsoft systems should have Windows Defender enabled for antivirus protection (or a suitable commercial alternative). Mac OS systems should have third-party antivirus software installed (there are several good free and commercial versions available).

The Technology Department will provide diagnostic network support for residents' computers, provided they meet the requirements listed above. The Help Desk will attempt to repair the system using reasonable care, but cannot be held responsible for any resulting loss of data or functionality. The Help Desk reserves the right to refuse to work on any computer or associated hardware or software for any reason.

Roles

Residents utilizing ResNet: Understand and adhere to this policy.

Technology Department: Maintain ResNet and assist residents in accessing the network.

Enforcement

Any employee found to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including loss of access rights and/or termination of employment in adherence to their respective collective bargaining agreement. Students found to have violated this policy may have their access removed and may have additional actions taken as directed by the Student Code of Conduct.

Revision History

Date of Change	Revision	Responsible	Summary of Change
8/15/2022	1	Steve Swartz, CIO Sherry Horeanopoulos, CISO	Creation of Policy, Start of Revision Tracking, Formatting of Document
1/09/2023	1.1	Steve Swartz, CIO	Spelling & Copyright Examples
4/17/2024	1.2	Eric Boughton, CISO	Formatting, Spelling
8/08/2025	1.3	Eric Boughton, CISO Stefan Dodd, CIO	Remove redundancies from the ResNet policy that are called out in the student conduct handbook. Modernized tech terminology.