

Shiv Nadar University  
Information Technology

## Peer-to-Peer (P2P) File Sharing Policy

**Approved by:** Vice Chancellor, Chief Information Officer & Associate Dean, Student Services

**Effective Date:** February 2013

To remain competitive, better serve and provide our students with the best tools to do their academic work, Shiv Nadar University (SNU) makes available to our students access to one or more forms of electronic services, which may include computers, e-mail, online services and Internet.

SNU encourages the use of these media and associated services because they can make communication more efficient and effective and because they are valuable sources of information. However, all students and everyone connected with the University should remember that electronic media and services provided by the University are University property and their purpose is to facilitate and support the mission of the University. All computer users have the responsibility to use these resources in a professional, ethical, and lawful manner.

### **Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Policy:**

Peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing applications are used to connect a computer directly to other computers in order to transfer files between the systems. While Peer-to-Peer technologies have many important and legitimate uses, P2P file sharing applications are often used to obtain copyrighted materials (e.g. music, movies, videos, text, etc.) without the permission of the owner or distributor while utilizing a disproportionate amount of network bandwidth and leaving the user's computer vulnerable to computer viruses. It also violates applicable Indian Cyber Laws. Examples of P2P applications are BitTorrent, Gnutella, Limewire, eMule, Ares Galaxy, Kazaa, Morpheus and Grokster. Therefore, the University has adopted the policy that P2P software, including those mentioned above, will not be permitted to operate on its network.

If there is any legal liability that ensues due to infringement of copyrighted material, SNU will not be responsible for any liability and the person will be held responsible for this infringement. SNU reserves the right, at its discretion, to review any student's network access to the extent necessary to ensure electronic media and services are being used in compliance with the law, this policy and other University policies.

For sharing of files, SNU provides many services under Google Apps for Education – using your SNU email ID, you can use Google Docs or Google Drive to share files. In addition there are many free legitimate online services that enable you to share files like dropbox, [drop.io](http://drop.io), [box.net](http://box.net), etc.

If your work requires the use of p2p software, an exception may be made for your system. A request for an exemption may be made by submitting a request or by contacting the SNU IT Help Desk at extension 819.