A. Introduction

The Kern Community College District provides computing resources that benefit faculty, staff, and students and support the instructional and administrative activities of the Colleges and the District. The District is committed to computer policies which promote the mission of the Colleges and encourage respect for the rights of other computer users.

Use of computing resources and facilities must be for activities related to the mission of the Colleges and the District. Computing resources are to be used in an effective, efficient, ethical and lawful manner.

Access to computer systems and networks, including Internet, imposes responsibilities and obligations on the part of users. Users are expected to demonstrate respect for intellectual property, data ownership, system security, individuals' rights to access information, and the freedom from intimidation or harassment.

The following policies shall apply to all individuals, i.e., staff, students, and other users accessing College and District computing and networking resources, regardless of access point (i.e., local, remote, Internet). The Colleges shall develop and implement procedures related to campus administrative computing, campus instructional computing, access to both systems, and other electronic computing systems. These College procedures will be consistent with the prohibitions set forth in this document.

B. Use of Facilities and Resources

Computer use shall be consistent with the educational, academic, and administrative purposes of the Colleges/District and shall respect the rights of other computer users. All users are expected to learn and follow College/District guidelines for the use of specific facilities regarding prohibitions about food, beverages, smoking, and computer games; protection of equipment; equal access opportunities; and rights of other users.

Improper uses of Colleges/District computer facilities are prohibited as follows:

- The use of computer resources for cheating, plagiarism, furnishing false information, or other acts of academic dishonesty is prohibited.
- The use of computer systems shall not interfere with the work of employees or students nor disrupt the normal operation of the Colleges/District.
- The insertion of data into a computer system to deliberately cause problems resulting in extra work or downtime is prohibited.
- Computer use which monopolizes resources; network use which creates unnecessary network traffic; broadcast of inappropriate electronic mail and messages; transmission of electronic chain letters or other requests for money; and distribution or circulation of media known to contain computer viruses are prohibited.
- Copying, distributing (either free or for monetary gain), or receiving copyrighted software or electronic information without paying the specified fee (U.S. copyright laws) are prohibited.
- Unauthorized sharing and/or attempting to access computer accounts, or accessing codes and passwords of other users are prohibited.
- Unauthorized commercial or business use of Colleges/District computer resources for individual or private gain is prohibited.
- Use of College/District computer resources to intentionally transmit, receive, or copy obscene or abusive materials is prohibited.
- Use of College/District computing facilities to access or attempt to access student or employee information for any purpose not specifically job-related violates state and federal laws and District policy and is prohibited.
- The Electronic Communications Privacy Act (federal law) includes electronic mail and messages in the same category as U.S. mail and telephone calls, and defines unauthorized attempts to access another user’s information as unlawful behavior; such behavior is prohibited.
C. Sanctions

The consequences for violations of these procedures are described in the laws of the State of California and the Kern Community College District Board Policy Manual. Penalties for violations depend on the specific situations, but may include serious consequences including legal action.

Note #1: These Use Procedures will be part of the Kern Community College District Information Technology Plan, and are in effect until refined and adopted as part of the Board Policy Manual.

Note #2: Procedural Security Measures will be developed and implemented by the Colleges/District at a later date. These security measures will address College/District responsibilities for protecting systems and data from unauthorized use, improper disclosure, accidental alteration, or accidental or intentional destruction.

ADOPTED: ITF -- MAY 15, 1996
APPROVED: CHANCELLOR’S CABINET -- JUNE 20, 1996

Enrollment Requirements

- Use of computers and related equipment is based on enrollment in a no-cost, 0 unit class (CSCI C040).
- Students may register for the course at Admissions and Records, or online using the Coyote Connection system.
- Students must also be enrolled in at least 1 unit of regular classes to qualify for enrollment in the CSCI C040 course.

Student Agreement

I, __________________________________, agree to the terms and conditions of the Computer Use Policy and the Printing Policy and my signature below indicates an understanding of the Enrollment Requirement. This agreement will remain effective so long as I am enrolled in at least 1 unit and also enrolled in the 0 unit CSCI C040 course for the term indicated below on this agreement.

Signature ___________________________ Date ______________________

LAB AIDE USE ONLY:

INDICATE EFFECTIVE TERM: □ SPRING □ SUMMER □ FALL YEAR: __________________ INITIALS: ___________________