

Higher Education Opportunity Act Peer to Peer Provisions Compliance

The University of New Hampshire (UNH) takes copyright violations very seriously and has developed policies to combat the illegal use of copyrighted materials.

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) includes provisions to reduce the illegal uploading and downloading of copyrighted materials through peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing. These provisions require that:

- Institutions make an annual disclosure that informs students that the illegal distribution of copyrighted materials may subject them to criminal and civil penalties and describes the steps that institutions will take to detect and sanction illegal distribution of copyrighted materials.
- Institutions certify to the US Secretary of Education that they have developed plans to “effectively combat” the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials including “the use of one or more technology-based deterrents”.
- Institutions offer alternatives to illegal file sharing to the extent practical.
- Institutions identify procedures for periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the plans to combat the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials.

An outline of the University’s plan to combat unauthorized use of copyrighted materials is available by request from the office of the UNH Vice President of Student Affairs, or by sending e-mail to it.security@unh.edu.