



Copyright Infringement Policy

All Elite Institute of Cosmetology students, faculty and staff must comply with copyright laws and the provisions of licensing agreements that apply to software. Elite Institute of Cosmetology prohibits unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including unauthorized peer- to-peer file sharing. Such instances may subject the student, faculty and/or staff member to civil and criminal liabilities. Elite Institute of Cosmetology will cooperate fully with any investigation by public authorities related to the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material. Students, faculty and/or staff found guilty will be subject to the full extent of fines and penalties imposed, as well as facing disciplinary action from the Institute. Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement.

In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or "statutory" damages affixed at not less than \$750 and not more than \$30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to \$150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys' fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505. Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to \$250,000 per offense.

For more information, please see the Web site of the U.S. Copyright Office at www.copyright.gov, especially their FAQ's at www.copyright.gov/help/faq.