

Title/Subject: **DISPOSAL OR TRANSFER OF COMPUTERS AND OTHER DIGITAL ASSETS**

Applies to: faculty staff students student employees visitors contractors

Effective Date of This Revision: July 1, 2018

Contact for More Information: Office of Information Technology

Board Policy Administrative Policy Procedure Guideline

BACKGROUND:

This policy has been created to reduce the risk of the breach or exposure of CMU's Protected or Restricted data stemming from inappropriate transfer, sale, or disposal of CMU-owned computers, computer-based equipment, and digital media of any kind. Without proper removal, sensitive personal data as well as University licensed software packages may inadvertently remain on the hard drives or storage media of computers and other equipment intended for transfer, sale, or disposal. At best, access to this sensitive information and licensed University software by non-authorized personnel (internal or external to CMU) is inappropriate. At worst, the University could be held liable for the release of personal information and/or a violation of software licensing agreements. This policy guards against these possibilities by requiring that all computers and other digital assets intended for transfer, sale, and disposal be managed through processes maintained by University Stores and the Office of Information Technology (OIT).

POLICY:

The Office of Information Technology and University Stores will jointly maintain procedures for the appropriate removal of CMU data from all computers and other digital assets prior to their transfer to another department within CMU, public sale, or disposal. The equipment covered under this policy is intended to be inclusive of a wide range of University-owned computers, computer-based equipment and storage media of all kinds, including both portable and removable media.

PROCEDURE:

All computers and digital assets must be transferred to OIT or University Stores for erasure prior to transfer, sale, or disposal. Erasure of data must be confirmed as successful, or the storage media will be considered defective and must be destroyed (crushed, shredded, or rendered otherwise unusable) before the remaining equipment may be transferred, sold, or disposed of. If defective storage media cannot be separated from the device, the device must be destroyed before leaving the University.

University-owned computers and other digital assets known to have housed Restricted or otherwise regulated information (like workstations or devices used in clinical patient treatment areas, servers and server-storage with large repositories or databases of HIPAA, FERPA, or controlled research data on them) will be considered to be at high risk for inadvertent data loss and will have their storage media removed and destroyed by OIT/University Stores prior to transfer, sale, or disposal of the equipment.

RELATED POLICIES AND OTHER RESOURCES:

[Responsible Use of Computing Policy](#)

[Data Stewardship Policy](#)

[Information Security Policy](#)

Authority: George E. Ross, President

History: 2005-10-10

Indexed as: disposal of Computers; Salvage Computers; Transfer of Computers within the University; sale of computers; digital assets

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[Information Security FAQ](#)

AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS:

The CIO may approve exceptions to this policy. All amendments and additions to this policy will be drafted by a committee convened by the CIO and will be reviewed and approved by the Provost and the President. Changes in this policy will be appropriately publicized.

Central Michigan University reserves the right to make exceptions to, modify or eliminate this policy and or its content. This document supersedes all previous policies, procedures or guidelines relative to this subject.