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# **NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF MASSAGE POLICY & PROCEDURES**

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## **Financial Aid**

### **TITLE: COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT POLICY**

**Policy:** NYIM and its personnel shall be in compliance with the requisite US ED rules and regulations as apply to Copyright Infringement.

Students are hereby notified that they are prohibited from the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including unauthorized peer-to-peer sharing. Penalties for copyright infringement may result in civil and criminal liabilities.

#### **Summary of Civil and Criminal Penalties for Violation of Federal Copyright Laws.**

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.

Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. 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 website of the U.S. Copyright Office at ([www.copyright.gov](http://www.copyright.gov)).

NYIM (New York Institute of Massage) strictly prohibits the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials, including unauthorized peer-to-peer sharing. The penalty for students found in violation of copyright infringement laws is termination from the program. Terminated students are not eligible for re-enrollment.