**Online Research Questions**

**ANSWER KEY**

Use a computer to find the answers to the following questions.

1. Does Texas have a formal ‘Acceptable Use’ policy/law?
   1. Yes
2. According to Texas Administrative Code Chapter 202 Subchapter A Rule 202.1, what is a

‘Custodian of an Information Resource’?

* 1. A person responsible for implementing the information owner-defined controls and access to an information resource. Custodians may include state employees, vendors, and any third party acting as an agent of, or otherwise on behalf of the state entity

1. What section of administrative code applies to the acceptable use of Internet, Email/Messages, and P2P file sharing?
   1. Title 1 Part 10 Chapter 213
2. Does an employer have the legal right to control what you see and do on the Internet when you are at work? Should he/she be able to control access in this manner?
   1. Yes; answers to *should* an employer be able to will vary
3. State employees are not supposed to send ‘political’ emails supporting a particular candidate or political position using a government owned electronic device. This law includes teachers. In some school districts, teachers are allowed to use their ‘school’ computers to check personal email. If a teacher checks his/her personal email while at school and sends out an email supporting a particular candidate from his/her personal email account but using a school computer, has (s)he violated the Acceptable Use Policy as written by the state? What are the possible consequences if so?
   1. Acceptable use policy was violated because the instructor used state/government owned equipment even though the email account was private. Possible consequences include suspension of account and termination of employment
4. When was the Texas Acceptable Use Code enacted?
   1. April 5, 2006
5. Describe the responsibilities of a network administrator and compare them to the responsibilities of a ‘Custodian of Information Resource’.
   1. Network administrator: person who manages a local area communications network (LAN) or wide area network (WAN) for an organization. Responsibilities include network security, installing new [hardware](http://www.pcmag.com/encyclopedia_term/0,2542,t=network+administrator&i=47859,00.asp) and applications, monitoring software upgrades and daily activity, enforcing licensing agreements, developing a [storage](http://www.pcmag.com/encyclopedia_term/0,2542,t=network+administrator&i=47859,00.asp) management program, and providing for routine backups, not to mention ensuring that it is up and running all the time
   2. Custodian of Information Resource: person responsible for implementing the information owner-defined controls and access to an information resource. Custodians may include state employees, vendors, and any third party acting as an agent of, or otherwise on behalf of the state entity
6. According to the Texas Acceptable Use Policy, can a state employee be terminated for violating the rules?
   1. Yes
7. What division of the Texas government is responsible for the management of government information and communications technology?
   1. DIR – Texas Department of Information Resources
8. Are employers using social media and online background searches to help determine whether to hire a particular individual?
   1. Yes, employers are asking for full administrative access to potential employee social media pages and using the information found to help determine desirability of the individual as an employee.
9. Should an employer be able to require that you give him/her your social media account information including user I.D. and password before (s)he agrees to hire you? Why or why not?
   1. This question will elicit varying responses. As long as the responses are well thought out and supported, the student should receive full credit for this question
10. Would you consider the network administrator of a school district a ‘Custodian of Information Resource’?
    1. Yes
11. Should an employer be able to fire you for things you post online? Why or why not?
    1. Answers will vary; once again, as long as the answers are thoughtful and well supported, the student should receive credit
12. According to the Texas Acceptable Use Policy, who owns the files created or stored on state/government owned equipment?
    1. The agency/facility that owns the equipment
13. According to the Texas Security Incident Reporting Instructions,

TAC §202 requires each state agency and institution of higher education to provide timely reporting of certain types of security incidents to DIR which, depending on the threat or level of risk to the State, could mean emergency reporting. Timely reporting is required (preferably within 24 hours) for incidents that may:

1. Propagate to other state systems; (emergency reporting)
2. Result in criminal violations that shall be reported to law enforcement; or
3. Involve the unauthorized disclosure or modification of confidential information, e.g. sensitive personal information

List three different ways a student could violate the third statement and be reported to the Texas IT Security Management staff.

*These are three possible ways but the students may have others that are just as plausible*

1. ‘Finding’ the administrative password for the grade book system and changing grades
2. Using his/her position as an office aid to find unlisted numbers of other students for personal use
3. Using his/her position as an office aid to find out the grades of other students and sharing that information with friends