

MITY Digital Citizenship Agreement

This Digital Citizenship Agreement is between Minnesota Institute for Talented Youth (MITY), the students participating in MITY's Online Program, and the parents or guardians of those students. Our program uses a variety of online resources, tools and programs that require students to post, share, and publish work online in both protected and open environments. This agreement serves as a resource to help students maintain safety and privacy while interacting in online environments such as these. It is important that both the student and the parent or guardian carefully read and understand this agreement. ***You are required to acknowledge your understanding of and consent to follow this agreement when you apply to MITY's online program.***

- **I will protect my identity while enrolled in a MITY course(s).** This includes not sharing my email address, home address, phone number, full name, birthdate, location, school name, or any other information that might pose a privacy or security risk.
- **I will protect the security of my fellow classmates and MITY staff** by not sharing course content, participant information, or participant work with others. It is important that MITY online communities are a safe and welcoming space to share ideas and work.
- **I will manage my own passwords** and never share them with others except for my parents or guardians.
- **I will be responsible for maintaining or deleting any accounts that may need to be created for my MITY online course.**
- **I will exhibit appropriate behavior online.** Many internet tools allow for a wide range of interaction, including comments, posts, discussions, and peer feedback. Everything I write or share online is a reflection of myself, and should be treated as *both permanent and public*. It is my responsibility to make wise decisions about how I want to be perceived by instructors and classmates, as well as potential schools and employers that might one day see the interactions I have had online. I am committed to only sharing appropriate information, images, and multimedia resources.
- **I will respect myself and others at all times.** I will never share a post, comment, or image that could be perceived as disrespectful. I will not engage with or respond to inappropriate or disrespectful posts or images. I will report inappropriate activity to my instructor or to the MITY office staff.
- **I will adhere to copyright laws and fair use guidelines.** I will not use copyrighted work without permission and will always credit the original producer of the work. This includes text from books or websites, images, videos, and any other resource I obtain. This is particularly important when I am creating and sharing things online that could potentially have a public audience that may interpret these items as my own work. If I am unsure of whether I might be using copyrighted materials, I will seek the help of my instructor. "I didn't know" is not an excuse for plagiarism or copyright infringement.
- **I understand that it is my responsibility to read the terms of use or service and adhere to any age restrictions.** These are typically located at the bottom of all pages, particularly the home pages. MITY will never expect or require me to use any tool in a manner that violates the terms of use or age restrictions.
- **I will contact my instructor or MITY staff if at any time I feel uncomfortable about online activity related to my course.** I have the right to feel safe and protected when utilizing online tools and resources. If at any time I feel uncomfortable, or experience or witness instances of bullying, harassment, inappropriate language or content, I will contact my instructor or the MITY staff as soon as possible.