

DCTC Policy 6.18 Security Cameras

Part 1. Policy

Dakota County Technical College uses security cameras as one resource to enhance safety and security of persons and property. Additionally, security cameras may provide beneficial information for management and operations of Dakota County Technical College. All security camera installations must be approved in advance by designated Dakota County Technical College personnel, as described in this policy, except in the case of an emergency that makes such consultation impractical. Placement and use of security cameras must conform to applicable state and federal laws in addition to system and campus policies. Security cameras must not have audio monitoring or audio recording capabilities enabled. Video monitoring of public areas for security purposes must be limited to uses that do not violate the reasonable expectations of privacy, as defined by law.

Part 2. Scope

This policy applies to all personnel and departments of Dakota County Technical College in the use of its equipment for video surveillance, monitoring, and recording on Dakota County Technical College - owned, leased or controlled properties; this policy does not apply to the use of video applications for academic, research, or educational purposes of Dakota County Technical College, or to security cameras installed by authorized financial institutions to monitor ATM machine usage on campus.

Part 3. Management and Use of Security Cameras

The purpose of security cameras is to assist in the daily operations of campus security and safety in providing a safe and secure environment to the Dakota County Technical College community including students, employees, and visitors. Information obtained through video monitoring will be primarily used for security and law enforcement purposes. Information obtained through authorized surveillance may be used in support of disciplinary proceedings against Dakota County Technical College personnel or students, or by Dakota County Technical College for other appropriate purposes such as litigation.

The installation and monitoring of security cameras and equipment must be administered by the Minnesota State Administrator designated by the president in a manner consistent with this policy. The designee may authorize the use of video surveillance in a temporary location upon request of a college official if a specific safety or security risk exists; if the request concerns the investigation of individuals, the designee shall consult with the Office of General Counsel and/or human resources office of Labor Relations in the system office prior to approval. The designee shall consult with system legal counsel if requested by law enforcement to install video surveillance for a criminal investigation.

Camera's will be positioned in all public areas and signage will be posted at all major entrances designating a camera is recording.

If concern over camera placement should arise, concerned persons may submit a petition to the Vice President of Finance and Operations or designee for the removal or relocation of an existing camera. The Vice President or designee will review petitions regarding camera location(s) and determine whether the policy is being followed. The Vice President or designee will determine the appropriateness of an installation by weighing the concerns of the person(s) making the request and the safety and security of the entire community. The Vice President or designee will weigh whether the potential increment in community security outweighs any likely infringement of individual privacy.

Part 4. Principles

The following principles shall apply regarding the use of security cameras at Dakota County Technical College under this policy:

- All recording or monitoring of activities of individuals or groups by authorized Dakota County Technical College security cameras will be conducted in a manner consistent with applicable system and Dakota County Technical College policies, and will not be based on an individual's race, gender, ethnicity, sex, disability, or other personal characteristics that are protected by Board Policy 1.B.1.
- All recording or monitoring of video records will be conducted in a professional, ethical, and legal manner. Campus security, which includes two Dakota County Sheriff Deputies who the college employs to provide security, and other personnel with authorized access to video recordings must receive a copy of this policy and will receive training on the effective, legal, and ethical use of the monitoring equipment upon assuming their role and at least annually thereafter.
- All recording or monitoring for security and safety purposes will be conducted only in areas where the public does not have a reasonable expectation of privacy. (e.g., not living spaces).
- Recorded images made by security cameras will be securely maintained by the Dakota County Technical College pursuant to its records retention schedule. The alteration of video images is strictly prohibited.

Part 5. Limiting Use, Disclosure, and Retention of Recordings

The designee is responsible for controlling access to the security cameras monitors and recordings consistent with applicable privacy laws. Security camera data maintained by Dakota County Technical College may be nonpublic or private data on individuals under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). (Video surveillance data may be nonpublic or private "security information" as defined by Minn. Stat. § 13.37 Subd. 1 (a) or private personnel or educational data pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§13.43, Subd. 4 and 13.32, Subd. 3, and FERPA, 20 USC 1232g, which may be accessed, used, and disclosed to third parties only as consistent with those laws.)

Nothing in this policy shall prevent reporting to law enforcement real-time observations of conduct that appears to constitute criminal activity.

Recorded images will be stored in a secure location with access by authorized personnel only. A log must be created by the designee and maintained by authorized designee(s) of all instances of access to or use of surveillance records. The log must include the date and identification of the person or persons to whom access was granted.

Security camera data shall be maintained with appropriate security in accordance with the Dakota County Technical College records retention schedule, and will then be destroyed in a secure manner, unless retained as part of Dakota County Technical College proceeding, a criminal investigation, or a court proceeding (criminal or civil). Security data will be reviewed and retained by the Director of Safety and Security.

The designee is responsible for securely retaining any surveillance data, including a video recording, which may be required for evidentiary purposes. If a copy of a recording is required for evidentiary

purposes, campus personnel shall consult with the Minnesota State Office of General Counsel or the Attorney General's Office on protocols that may be required for authentication or other purposes and shall use a permanent storage device such as a CD, DVD, or USB drive and physically label the device with the date, time, and location of the recorded incident. No video footage segments or individual image copies, other than those required for system backup or evidentiary purposes, may be made, shared, or distributed without specific authorization/approval as stated above.

Part 6. Violations

Any individual who has concerns about the possible violation of this policy may discuss the matter with the Vice President of Finance and Operations or designee. Any individual found to have violated this policy may be referred for discipline under the applicable personnel or student conduct process.

Individuals who are believed to have tampered with or destroyed security camera equipment or recordings, or individuals who have accessed security camera records without authorization, may be subject to discipline under the applicable personnel or student conduct process and criminal prosecution, as appropriate.

Related Documents:

- Board Policy 1B.1 Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination in Employment and Education
- Minnesota Government Data Practices Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Minn. Stat. § 13.37 Subd. 1 (a)
- Minn. Stat. §§13.43, Subd. 4
- Minn. Stat. §§13.32, Subd. 3
- FERPA, 20 USC 1232g

Responsible Administrator: Vice President of Finance and Operations

Policy History:

Date of adoption: November 1, 2020

Last revision date: September 8, 2020

Date most recent policy revisions go into effect: November 1, 2020

Date and subject of revisions: N/A