# Clarendon College Information Technology Services (CLARENDON COLLEGE-IT) Remote Desktop/Virtual Private Network Access Policy:

### PURPOSE:

The Remote Desktop/Virtual Private Network Access Policy exists to protect Clarendon College information technology resources. Security of the information technology resources that reside on the Clarendon College domain is ensured in part through restricting remote access. Remote Desktop (RDP) or Virtual Private Network (VPN) allows Clarendon College users (Regular and Visitor Account users as defined in Policy) to securely access the university's network via an existing connection to the Internet from a remote location.

If the connecting computer is not secure using RDP or VPN connections presents an increased security risk. Security, Internet access and configuration of the connecting computer are solely the responsibilities of the user account holder making the connection.

#### SCOPE:

The Clarendon College Remote Desktop/Virtual Private Network Access policy applies equally to all individuals with authorized RDP or VPN accounts accessing Clarendon College information technology resources.

#### **POLICY STATEMENT:**

- 1. It is the responsibility of individuals with RDP and/or VPN privileges to ensure that unauthorized users are not allowed access to the Clarendon College network using their security credentials.
- 2. RDP/VPN authentication is controlled using Clarendon College user account credentials.
- 3. RDP/VPN gateways are managed by Clarendon College-IT.
- 4. All computers connected to the Clarendon College network via RDP/VPN or any other technology must use the most up-to-date anti-virus software regardless of the type or ownership of the device.
- 5. RDP/VPN users will be automatically disconnected from Clarendon College's network after a designated time out period as determined by Clarendon College-IT. The user must then logon again to reconnect to the network.
- 6. Pings or other network utilities must not be used to keep the RDP/VPN connection open.
- 7. Non Clarendon College-owned equipment must be configured in compliance with Clarendon College policies and procedures.
- By using RDP/VPN technology with personal equipment, users must understand that their machines are a de facto extension of Clarendon College's network, and RDP/VPN users and privately owned equipment must be in compliance with Clarendon College policies and procedures.
- 9. RDP/VPN access does not guarantee access to all campus systems/applications. Access to systems/applications will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

**Unauthorized user:** A person who has not been given official permission or approval to access Clarendon College systems.

**Virtual Private Network (VPN):** Extends a private network across a public network, like the internet, to provide remote offices or individuals with secure access to the Clarendon College network using special hardware and software.

**Remote Desktop (RDP):** A program or an operating system feature that allows a user to connect to a computer in another location, see that computer's desktop and interact with it as if it were local

**VPN Gateway:** (Also known as a VPN Router) is a connection point that connects two networks which are connected by a non-secure network such as the Internet.

## **Related Policies, References and Attachments:**

An index of approved Clarendon College-IT policies can be found on the Clarendon College Information Technology Services Policies website at

<u>https://www.clarendoncollege.edu/information-technology</u>. Reference materials, legal compliance guidelines, and policy enforcement are available in the Policy Compliance Document. The Clarendon College Information Security Program and Clarendon College Information Security User Guide are also available on the Information Technology Services Policies website.

This policy was approved by the Clarendon College Board of Regents on July 17, 2023, version1.1. This policy was reviewed by Will Thompson, Vice President of IT on July 15, 2023.