I. **INTRODUCTION** (Purpose and Intent)

The purpose of this policy is to insure that the electronic communication requirements of the entire USF System community are met in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

II. **DEFINITION**

For the purpose of this policy, **communications resources** are defined to include those services, facilities, systems, devices, embedded or device controlled software and all other apparatus that are customarily associated with electronic voice, video and data, such as:

- Local and interexchange (including interLATA) telephone and private line services that are provided by the local exchange carrier (LEC), interexchange carrier (IXC) and other local and long distance carriers including state of Florida telecommunications service providers.
- Telephone and data switching systems and ancillary devices and equipment including instruments and cabling.
- Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) systems and phones, Soft phones, and wireless voice devices.
- Voice messaging equipment and/or services.
- Teleconferencing systems and equipment.
- Local area networking (LAN) services, equipment and transmission facilities.

III. **STATEMENT OF POLICY**

A. The System Vice President, Information Technology, is charged with responsibility for overseeing the acquisition, planning, installation, modifications, maintenance, repair, relocation and removal of all communication facilities, services, systems and
devices that support the USF System, except for specific entities who operate under additional federal regulations that would not normally be applicable to an educational environment. These areas may include clinical healthcare or clinical research, where federal regulation mandates an even more stringent and different security structure. Even in these cases, reasonable efforts should be made to follow the spirit of the USF System policy.

B. The acquisition of communications services, facilities, systems and equipment shall be in accordance with the provisions of the prevailing USF System policy, rules, and regulations.

C. Access to and utilization of Customer-Premises Equipment (CPE) such as telephone conduit and cable ducts, and attachment or connection of telephone and other electronic communication resource to the USF System communications network shall be under the control of the System Vice President, Information Technology.

D. Practices, procedures and guidelines governing the administration and delivery of service to all segments of the USF System shall be published separately by the System Vice President, Information Technology on an as required basis.

E. Regional campuses and separately accredited institutions shall be delegated varying degrees of authority over communications in their respective areas at the discretion and written permission of the System Vice President, Information Technology.

*Current Responsible Office: Information Technology

*Refer to the appropriate Responsible Office website for a current name of the Vice President or other Responsible Officer.