



Yeshiva University

To: University Faculty, Administrators, and Staff

From: Selma Botman, Provost & Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs
Jenn Kinney, Associate Dean of Research, Office of the Provost

Date: August 7, 2023

Subject: Recently imposed restrictions on ByteDance social networking services

The federal government recently imposed restrictions via the “No TikTok on Government Devices Act”. The rule is implemented through a new Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clause, FAR 52.204-27, Prohibition on a ByteDance Covered Application.

Under the Act, Yeshiva University faculty, staff and students are not permitted to download or use TikTok or Lark on any information technology – including but not limited to laptops, cell phones, software, and firmware – used in furtherance of a federal contract.

Please take the following steps immediately, to ensure you are complying with these restrictions:

- Do not download/use TikTok or Lark on government or university issued equipment, or personal devices used in support of federal contracts (e.g., federal research contracts, service agreements). This applies regardless of whether the information technology is purchased through university funds or charged to a federal contract.
- If you have TikTok or Lark already installed on devices you use in support of federal contracts, please delete the applications from those devices.
- If you are using personal devices for federally sponsored contracts (e.g., using your personal cellphone to support a federal contract by sending or receiving contract related emails), do not download or use TikTok or Lark on those devices, and if those applications are already installed, please delete them.
- PIs on federal grants are asked to communicate this requirement with their students and personnel.

Yeshiva University plans to issue additional guidance as the legislation is clarified and evolves. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding the Act or are not certain whether you work on a federal contract where these restrictions apply, please reach out to Jenn Kinney for guidance at jennifer.kinney@yu.edu.