



ITS Policy Bulletin

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Informing the UNC Chapel Hill community about changes to technology, information security, and digital accessibility policies.



Information Security Controls Standard

Throughout the last few months, the [Information Security Controls Standard](#) (which we've nicknamed the "MSS" or "Minimum Security Standard") has been undergoing a major revision. The new standard is structured around the question "Have we adequately responded to the University's protection obligation and exercised due care?" The standard defines the minimum common requirements for information security controls and outlines obligation-differentiated protection. It describes three levels of baseline controls, and how to determine which one should apply to a device or system.

We understand that adjusting to the new MSS will come with its challenges, and that making the necessary changes to comply with the standard will take time. The timeline for implementation is designed to provide breathing room for units to make those changes. After the MSS goes live, phased implementation will give time for change. For the first eighteen months you may opt to apply the old Standard instead if needed. For the following eighteen months legacy technology may use the old controls but new technology must come into compliance. Eighteen months after that, all technology must follow the new Standard.

The new Information Security Controls Standard went through the Policy Review Committee on April 18th. It is currently on track to be effective on July 31st.

Vulnerability Management

The [Vulnerability Management Standard](#) is wrapping up a major revision, along with the MSS. The VM standard describes minimum requirements for patching to protect against vulnerabilities. The revisions to the standard outline a clear set of patching timelines and responsibilities. went to Policy Review Committee in April and will have an effective date of July 31st, with an eighteen month phased implementation.

Policies Under Review

Currently, three policies related to Digital Accessibility are under review. Reflecting recent regulatory changes, the new Standards will bring the University into compliance and reflect our mission better. The changes to the Digital Accessibility Standard for Purchasing will clarify the need for evaluating accessibility when buying *any* technology or content. Much of the University's digital infrastructure is made by third parties, and when selecting which vendors to work with and what tools to use, it's important to consider accessibility. A lacking approach to accessibility may also be an indicator that the vendor is taking other shortcuts, such as with their privacy, security, and uptime.

- [Digital Accessibility Policy](#)
- [Accessibility of Digital Content and Materials Standard](#)
- [Accessibility Standard for Procurement of Digital Content and Materials](#)

The Enterprise Data Coordinating Committee has a goal for 2024 to revise the four main data governance policies. Those four policies have undergone an initial drafting by a group of stakeholders. Expect to see drafts next month!

- [Information Classification Standard](#)
- [Enterprise Data Governance Standard](#)



- [Enterprise Data Governance Policy](#)
- [Admin Terms of Use Policy](#)

Drafts for the Digital Accessibility and Data Governance policies have not been posted yet, but we always accept feedback through the ITS Policy email if you have comments on the current versions, its_policy@unc.edu.

Feedback

The ITS Policy Office continually reviews and updates IT Policies, Standards, and Procedures to best serve the University's IT, Security, and Digital Accessibility needs. We are always soliciting feedback on new and existing policy documents. All feedback received by the office is saved and included in annual review processes. If you have comments to offer on this bulletin, on policies managed by ITS, or if you have questions about any ITS policy or would like to have an expert speak to any campus group on IT policy issues, please feel free to contact Kim Stahl directly, at the ITS Policy Office email, its_policy@unc.edu, via ServiceNow (ITS Police Office Assignment Group), or submit a comment using the form on the [ITS Policy Review Page](#).