



## PANOLA COLLEGE

# Information Technology Information Security Program

### Overview

#### Introduction

The Texas Administrative Code Chapter 202 (TAC§202) is written for state agencies and institutions of higher education. Panola College (PC) is a comprehensive, two-year community college – a public junior college. TAC§202 defines an outstanding security program that follows closely with the federal requirements defined in NIST 800-53. Following these codes will provide security for the college's important data. The guidelines established in this statute will ensure that PC data is compliant with current state and federal regulations and will prepare PC for future compliance requirements by the THECB.

This document defines an Information Security Program for Panola College. It provides direction for managing and protecting the confidentiality, integrity and availability of PC information technology resources. Much of the content has been borrowed from TAC §202. The general requirements have been made specific to Panola in order to more easily understand the roles and responsibilities of the College constituents.

The Information Security Program contains administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect College information technology resources. Actions have been taken to protect these resources against accidental or unauthorized access, disclosure, modification, or destruction, as well as to assure the availability, integrity, utility, authenticity, and confidentiality of information. Access to PC information technology resources is appropriately managed by the PC Information Security Program. Unauthorized modification, deletion, or disclosure of information technology resources can compromise the mission of PC, violate individual privacy rights, and possibly constitute a criminal act. (TAC§202.70).

This framework represents the basis of the institutional information security program. The Panola College Information Security Program and security standards are not intended to prevent or impede the authorized use of information technology resources as required to meet the college mission.

PC information technology resources may be limited or regulated by PC, as needed, to fulfill the primary mission of the college. Usage of PC information technology resources may be constrained as required to assure adequate capacity, optimal performance, and appropriate security of those resources.

## Purpose

The purpose of the Panola College Information Security Program is to provide the college community with a description of the college policies for information security. Additionally, the framework of this plan is designed to document the controls used to meet the information security program objectives by:

- Identifying system data owners, providing the data classification standard and identifying the category of its data.
- Reviewing all authorized users and their security access for each system.
- Providing security awareness training for all employees.
- Performing the risk assessment process and developing the risk mitigation plan.
- Reviewing and updating the disaster recovery plan.
- Reviewing current policies and training program.
- Creating a security effectiveness report to the president.
- Reviewing the current process and implement changes as necessary.

The Information Security Program process combines multiple security elements into a management framework that supports the objectives of confidentiality, integrity, and availability.

## Authority

Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §202  
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)

## Scope

This program applies equally to all individuals granted access privileges to any Panola College information technology resource, to include the following:

- Central and departmentally-managed college information technology resources.
- All users employed by PC, contractors, vendors, or any other person with access to PC's information technology resources.
- Non-PC-owned computing devices that may store protected PC information.
- All categories of information, regardless of the medium in which the information asset is held or transmitted (e.g. physical or electronic).
- Information technology facilities, applications, hardware systems, network resources owned or managed by PC. This includes third party service providers' systems that access or store PC's protected information.
- Auxiliary organizations, external businesses and organizations that use college information technology resources must operate those assets in conformity with the PC Information Security Program.

## Information Security Roles and Responsibilities

The following distinctions among owner, custodian, and user responsibilities guide determination of the roles: (TAC§202.72).

### Data Owner

The owner or his or her designated representative(s) are responsible for:

- classifying information under their authority, with the concurrence of the PC President or his or her designated representative(s), in accordance with PC's established information classification categories;
- approving access to information resources and periodically review access lists based on documented risk management decisions;
- formally assigning custody of information or an information resource;
- coordinating data security control requirements with the ISO;
- conveying data security control requirements to custodians;
- providing authority to custodians to implement security controls and procedures;
- justifying, documenting, and being accountable for exceptions to security controls. The information owner shall coordinate and obtain approval for exceptions to security controls with the PC information security officer; and
- participating in risk assessments as provided under §202.75 of the Texas Administrative Code.

### Data Custodian

Custodians of information resources, including third party entities providing outsourced information resources services to PC shall:

- implement controls required to protect information and information resources required by this program based on the classification and risks specified by the information owner(s) or as specified by the policies, procedures, and standards defined by the PC Information Security Program;
- provide owners with information to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of controls and monitoring;
- adhere to monitoring techniques and procedures, approved by the ISO, for detecting, reporting, and investigating incidents;
- provide information necessary to provide appropriate information security training to employees; and
- ensure information is recoverable in accordance with risk management decisions.

### Users

The user of an information resource has the responsibility to:

- use the resource only for the purpose specified by PC or information-owner;
- comply with information security controls and institutional policies to prevent unauthorized or accidental disclosure, modification, or destruction; and
- formally acknowledge that they will comply with the security policies and procedures in a method determined by the PC President or his/her designated representative.

### **Public Use of PC systems [Guest(s) on campus]**

PC information resources designated for use by the public shall be configured to enforce security policies and procedures without requiring user participation or intervention. Information resources must require the acceptance of a banner or notice prior to use. The current designated WiFi network for guests is Panola WiFi.

### **College President**

The president of Panola College, as the institution head, is ultimately responsible for the security of the information resources. The president or his/her designated representative shall:

- designate an Information Security Officer who has the explicit authority and the duty to administer the information security program institution wide;
- allocate resources for ongoing information security remediation, implementation, and compliance activities that reduce risk to a level acceptable to the institution head;
- ensure that PC senior officials and information-owners, in collaboration with the information resources manager and/or information security officer, support the provision of information security for the information systems that support the operations and assets under their direct or indirect (e.g., cloud computing or outsourced) control;
- ensure that PC has trained personnel to assist the college in complying with the requirements of this program and related policies;
- ensure that PC senior officials support the college education Information Security Officer in developing, at least annually, a report on the PC information security program, as specified in §202.71(b)(11) and §202.73(a) of the Texas Administrative Code;
- approve high level risk management decisions as required by §202.75(4) of the Texas Administrative Code;
- review and approve at least annually the PC information security program required under §202.74 of the Texas Administrative Code; and
- ensure that information security management processes are part of the institution of higher education strategic planning and operational processes and policies.

### **Information Security Officer (ISO)**

Panola College shall have a designated Information Security Officer (ISO), and shall provide that its Information Security Officer reports to executive level management, has the authority for information security for the entire college and possesses training and experience required to administer the functions described below.

The ISO is responsible for:

- developing and maintaining a college-wide information security plan as required by §2054.133, Texas Government Code;
- developing and maintaining information security policies and procedures that address the requirements of this program and the institution's information security risks;
- working with the business and technical resources to ensure that controls are utilized to address all applicable requirements of this program and the institution's

information security risks;

- providing for training and direction of personnel with significant responsibilities for information security with respect to such responsibilities;
- providing guidance and assistance to PC senior officials, information owners, information custodians, and end users concerning their responsibilities under this program;
- ensuring that annual information security risk assessments are performed and documented by information-owners;
- developing and recommending policies and establishing procedures and practices, in cooperation with information-owners and custodians, necessary to ensure the security of information and information resources against unauthorized or accidental modification, destruction, or disclosure;
- coordinating the review of the data security requirements, specifications, and, if applicable, third-party risk assessment of any new computer applications or services that receive, maintain, and/or share confidential data;
- verifying that security requirements are identified and risk mitigation plans are developed and contractually agreed and obligated prior to the purchase of information technology hardware, software, and systems development services for any new high impact computer applications or computer applications that receive, maintain, and/or share confidential data;
- reporting, at least annually, to the PC President the status and effectiveness of security controls; and
- informing the parties in the event of noncompliance with this chapter and/or with PC's information security policies.

The Information Security Officer, with the approval of the PC President, may issue exceptions to information security requirements or controls in this Program. Any such exceptions shall be justified, documented and communicated as part of the risk assessment process.

## Data Classification

Data Classification provides a framework for managing data assets based on value and associated risks and for applying the appropriate levels of protection as required by state and federal law as well as proprietary, ethical, operational, and privacy considerations. All Panola College (PC) data, whether electronic or printed, must be classified as Confidential, Protected, or Public by the data owners and/or data custodians. Consistent use of data classification reinforces with users the expected level of protection of PC data assets in accordance with PC policies.

Data Owners and/or Data Custodians must classify data as follows:

1. **Confidential:** Sensitive data that must be protected from unauthorized disclosure or public release based on state or federal law, (e.g. the Texas Public Information Act, FERPA, HIPAA) and other constitutional, statutory, judicial, and legal agreements. Examples of Confidential data may include, but are not limited to:

- a. Personally identifiable information such as a name in combination with Social Security Number (SSN) and/or financial account numbers
  - b. Student education records such as posting student identifiers and grades
  - c. Intellectual property such as copyrights, patents and trade secrets
  - d. Medical records
2. **Protected:** Sensitive data that may be subject to disclosure or release under the Texas Public Information Act but requires additional levels of protection. Examples of Protected data may include but are not limited to:
1. Operational information
  2. Personnel records
  3. Information security procedures
  4. College-related research
  5. Internal communications
3. **Public:** Information intended or required for public release as described in the Texas Public Information Act.

### **Program Framework**

This section defines the Information Security Program process that will ensure the continuity, performance and security of PC's information systems. This framework is based on the main objective of the information security program: confidentiality, integrity, and availability.

A review of PC's Information Security Program for compliance with the TAC§202 standards will be performed at least biennially, based on business risk management decisions, by individual(s) independent of the Information Security Program (TAC§202.73.3).

The following processes will ensure that the appropriate safeguards are applied to PC's information systems and will continue to mature with the growing needs of the college's mission.

#### **1. Establish Responsibility**

At the beginning of each fiscal year, the data owners will review/identify the related data stored on their system and identify the categories of data stored as confidential, protected or public according to the data classification standards in the Data Classification Policy. The data owners will then review the list of authorized users for each system and make the necessary changes using the least privileged model. The ISO will review and approve information ownership and responsibilities to include personnel, equipment, hardware and software, as well as define information classification categories. (TAC§202.72(1A)(2A)).

## 2. Security Awareness Training/AI Training

All employees with access to the PC information technology resources must participate in information security awareness training annually. (TAC§202.71(b)(4)).

The training promotes awareness of:

- PC information security policies, standards, procedures, and guidelines.
- Potential threats against college protected data and information technology resources.
- Appropriate controls and procedures to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of protected data and information technology resources.

New employees will sign a Prohibited Technologies Policy and will be provided individual a copy for signature at the time of hire. Employees are expected to complete the security training within the year of hire and will submit the signed copy of the Prohibited Technologies Policy at the time of hire. Failure to complete the training and/or return the signed PT policy will result in a loss of network, system and email access.

Department heads and college executive management are responsible for ensuring training compliance.

Recently, a state-mandated requirement has been implemented that requires all governmental/state entities to also provide Artificial Intelligence (AI) training for all employees. Currently, Panola College has disseminated that training and employees are submitting a signed form once training is completed.

## 3. Risk Assessment and Planning

### Risk Planning

The principle reason for managing risk in an organization is to protect the mission and assets of the organization. Understanding risk, especially the magnitude of the risk, allows organizations to prioritize resources.

Security must be a consideration from the very beginning of any project at the college rather than something that is added later. A control review should be performed before implementation of information technology resources which store or handle confidential, sensitive, and/or protected information. This may include:

- A technical security evaluation to ensure appropriate safeguards are in place and operational.
- A risk assessment, including a review for regulatory, legal and policy compliance.
- A contingency plan, including the data recovery strategy.
- A review of on-going production procedures, including change controls and integrity checks.

## **Risk/Vulnerability Assessment**

PC performs annual assessments of its information risks and vulnerabilities. Risk assessments may be aimed at particular types of information, areas of the organization, or technologies. Risk assessments provide the basis for prioritization and selection of remediation activities and can be used to monitor the effectiveness of college controls. Risk assessments shall:

- assess the likelihood and potential damage of these threats, taking into consideration the sensitivity of the personal information;
- evaluate the sufficiency of existing policies, procedures, information systems, internal controls and security practices, in addition to other safeguards in place to control risks;
- be classified and updated based on the inherent risk. Risk and frequency will be ranked 'high', 'medium', or 'low' based on TAC§202.72 criteria;
- design and implement a plan that puts safeguards in place to minimize those risks, consistent with the requirements of state and federal laws;
- monitor the effectiveness of those safeguards;
- analyze data collected to identify control objectives, risk exposures, mitigation strategies and action plans for addressing each risk with timelines; and
- submit the annual report to the president and substantiate any changes to the information security program that may be needed as a result of evaluating the information collected.

## **4. Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity Plan**

PC-IT is responsible for developing and maintaining a Disaster preparedness/Recovery/Business Continuity Plan designed to address the operational restoration of PC's critical computer processing capability. This plan identifies the strategy to recover centrally administered data storage, programs, and processing capability in the event of a disaster.

## **5. Annual Review**

At the end of each fiscal year, the Information Security Officer (ISO) will review the risk assessment results, Security Awareness Training Program, Information Security Program and all PC IT Policies.

The ISO will report the status and effectiveness of PC's information security controls and will present recommended revisions and improvements based on the information collected. The report will include:

Description and/or narrative of any security incident that resulted in a significant impact to the College.

- Status of the Risk Assessments noting any significant changes.
- Status of the Vulnerability Assessments noting any major findings and corrections.
- Status of the IT Policy review.
- Status of the IT Security Awareness Training Program.
- Anticipated changes in the next fiscal year.

## Compliance References

PC's information security practices must comply with a variety of federal and state laws, as well as PC policies. These regulations are generally designed to protect individuals and organizations against the unauthorized or accidental disclosure of information that could compromise their identity or privacy. Legal regulations cover a variety of types of information including personally identifiable information (e.g. social security number, driver's license number), personal financial information (e.g. credit card numbers), medical information, and confidential student information.

There are many individual laws, regulations, and policies that establish our information security requirements. While it is not possible to list all potentially applicable laws and regulations, the most relevant to the users of PC's information technology resources are listed below.

To avoid breaches of any law, regulation, contractual obligation, or institutional policy, information technology resources will be regularly tested and audited to assure adherence with both external and internal standards.

Students, faculty and staff are responsible for understanding and observing these and all other applicable policies, regulations and laws in connection with their use of PC's information technology resources.

- Texas Administrative Code, Title 1, Part 10, Chapter 202, Subchapter C (TAC 202)
- The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996
- Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA)
- Texas Administrative Code, Title 1, Subchapter 203
- Texas Administrative Code, Title 1, Subchapter 211
- Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 552
- Texas Penal Code, Chapter 33, Computer Crimes
- Texas Penal Code, § 37.10, Tampering with Governmental Record
- United States Code, Title 18, § 1030, Computer Fraud and Related Activity of 1986
- Copyright Act of 1976
- Digital Millennium Copyright Act October 20, 1998
- Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986
- The Information Resources Management Act (IRM) TGC, Title 10, Subtitle B, 2054.075(b)
- Computer Software Rental Amendments Act of 1990
- ISO/IEC 27002:2005 standards jointly published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
- Prohibited Technologies Policy (enacted by State Governor, 2022)

**Failure to Comply (Enforcement)**

Consistent with PC policies, the ISO is authorized by the PC President to ensure that the appropriate processes to administer this program are in place, communicated to, and followed by the college community.

Administrators must ensure that measures are taken within their department to comply with this policy and its related standards, guidelines and practices. Departments found to be non-compliant will be required to take specific steps to come into compliance within a specified time. If compliance cannot be achieved, a written request for exception must be approved by the ISO. Approved requests will be reviewed annually to determine if an exception is still warranted.

PC reserves the right to temporarily or permanently suspend, block, or restrict access to college information technology resources, independent of such procedures, when it reasonably appears necessary to do so in order to protect the confidentiality, integrity, availability or functionality of PC information technology resources; to protect PC from liability; or to enforce this policy and its related standards and practices.

Failure to adhere to the provisions of this policy statement or the appropriate use policy statement may result in:

- suspension or loss of access to PC information technology resources
- appropriate disciplinary action under existing procedures applicable to students, faculty and staff, and
- civil or criminal prosecution

Potential violations will be investigated in a manner consistent with applicable laws and regulations, and PC policies, standards, guidelines and practices (TAC§202.72 and TAC§202.73). The Vice President for Fiscal Services or designee will ensure that suspected violations and resultant actions receive the proper and immediate attention of the appropriate college officials, law enforcement, outside agencies, and disciplinary/grievance processes in accordance with due process.

Third-party service providers who do not comply may be subject to appropriate actions as defined in contractual agreements or other legal remedies available to PC.

Appeals of college actions resulting from enforcement of this policy will be handled through existing disciplinary/grievance processes for PC students and employees.

**Obtaining a Policy Exemption**

Exemptions to policies are granted on a case-by-case basis and must be reviewed and approved by the college designated ISO. The ISO will mandate the documentation and additional administrative approvals required for consideration of each policy exemption request. TAC§202.71(c).

# PANOLA COLLEGE

## *INCIDENT CRITICALITY MATRIX*

		Impact		
		High-System Wide Business Unit, Department, Location	Medium-Multiple Users Number of Users	Low-Single User Single User
Urgency	High Can no longer perform primary work functions	Critical	High	Moderate
	Medium Work functions impaired, the workaround in place	High	Moderate	Low
	Low Inconvenient	Moderate	Low	Low

## REFERENCES FOR INFORMATION SECURITY GOVERNANCE

There are many individual laws, regulations, and policies that establish our information security requirements. While it is not possible to list all potentially applicable laws and regulations, the most relevant are listed in the Texas State College Systems Rules and Regulations, Policy Guideline TSUS IT.02.01, Information Security Policy. The primary applicable references are listed below.

### DIR Security Controls Catalog Control Group

- Texas Administrative Code, Title 1, Part 10, Chapter 202, Subchapter C (TAC§202)
- National Institute of Standards and Technology, Special Publication 800-171 (NIST 800-171)
- The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996
- Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA)
- Texas Administrative Code, Title 1, Subchapter 203
- Texas Government Code, Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 552
- Texas Penal Code, Chapter 33, Computer Crimes
- Texas Penal Code, § 37.10, Tampering with Governmental Record
- United States Code, Title 18, § 1030, Computer Fraud and Related Activity of 1986
- Copyright Act of 1976
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- Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986
- The Information Resources Management Act (IRM) TGC, Title 10, Subtitle B, 2054.075(b)
- Computer Software Rental Amendments Act of 1990
- ISO/IEC 27002:2005 standards jointly published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electro-technical Commission (IEC)
- Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) Practices for Protecting Information Resources Assets

## DEFINITIONS

Alphabetized listing of both common and specific terms that are used in this Information Security Program. The words and terms, when used in this program, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

### **Access**

The physical or logical capability to view, interact with, or otherwise make use of information resources.

### **Agency Head**

The top-most senior executive with operational accountability for an agency, department, commission, board, office, council, authority, or other agency in the executive or judicial branch of state government, that is created by the constitution or a statute of the state; or institutions of higher education, as defined in [§61.003](#), Education Code.

### **Availability**

The security objective of ensuring timely and reliable access to and use of information.

### **Cloud Computing**

Has the same meaning as "Advanced Internet-Based Computing Service" as defined in §2157.007(a),. Texas Government Code

### **Confidential Information**

Information that must be protected from unauthorized disclosure or public release based on state or federal law or other legal agreement.

### **Confidentiality**

The security objective of preserving authorized restrictions on information access and disclosure, including means for protecting personal privacy and proprietary information.

### **Control**

A safeguard or protective action, device, policy, procedure, technique, or other measure prescribed to meet security requirements (i.e., confidentiality, integrity, and availability) that may be specified for a set of information resources. Controls may include security features, management constraints, personnel security, and security of physical structures, areas, and devices.

### **Control Standards Catalog**

The document that provides state agencies and higher education institutions state specific implementation guidance for alignment with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) SP (Special Publication) 800-53 security controls.

### **Custodian**

See information custodian.

### **Department**

The Department of Information Resources (DIR or TxDIR).

**Destruction**

The result of actions taken to ensure that media cannot be reused as originally intended and that information is technologically infeasible to recover or prohibitively expensive.

**Electronic Communication**

A process used to convey a message or exchange information via electronic media. It includes the use of electronic mail (email), Internet access, Instant Messaging (IM), Short Message Service (SMS), facsimile transmission, and other paperless means of communication.

**Encryption (encrypt or encipher)**

The conversion of plaintext information into a code or cipher text using a variable called a "key" and processing those items through a fixed algorithm to create the encrypted text that conceals the data's original meaning.

**Guideline**

Recommended, non-mandatory controls that help support standards or serve as a reference when no applicable standard is in place.

**High Impact Information Resources**

Information Resources whose loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a severe or catastrophic adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals. Such an event could:

- cause a severe degradation in or loss of mission capability to an extent and duration that the organization is not able to perform one or more of its primary functions;
- result in major damage to organizational assets;
- result in major financial loss; or
- result in severe or catastrophic harm to individuals involving loss of life or serious life threatening injuries.

**Information**

Data as processed, stored, or transmitted by a computer.

**Information Custodian**

A department, agency, or third-party service provider responsible for implementing the information owner-defined controls and access to an information resource.

**Information Owner(s)**

A person(s) with statutory or operational authority for specified information or information resources.

**Information Resources**

As defined in §2054.003(7), Texas Government Code. The procedures, equipment, and software that are employed, designed, built, operated, and maintained to collect, record, process, store, retrieve, display, and transmit information, and associated personnel

including consultants and contractors.

**Information resources technologies** As defined in §2054.003(8), Texas Government Code. Data processing and telecommunications hardware, software, services, supplies, personnel, facility resources, maintenance, and training.

### **Information Resources Manager**

As defined in §2054.071, Texas Government Code. A senior official within the organization who oversees the acquisition and use of information technology within a state agency or institution of higher education, and ensures that all information resources are acquired appropriately, implemented effectively, and in compliance with relevant regulations and policies.

### **Information Security Program**

The policies, standards, procedures, elements, structure, strategies, objectives, plans, metrics, reports, services, and resources that establish an information resources security function within an institution of higher education or state agency.

### **Information System**

An interconnected set of information resources under the same direct management control that shares common functionality. An Information System normally includes, but is not limited to, hardware, software, network Infrastructure, information, applications, communications and people.

### **Integrity**

The security objective of guarding against improper information modification or destruction, including ensuring information non-repudiation and authenticity.

### **Low Impact Information Resources**

Information resources whose loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a limited adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals. Such an event could:

- cause a degradation in mission capability to an extent and duration that the organization is able to perform its primary functions, but the effectiveness of the functions is noticeably reduced;
- result in minor damage to organizational assets;
- result in minor financial loss; or
- result in minor harm to individuals.

### **Moderate Impact Information Resources**

Information Resources whose loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a serious adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals. Such an event could:

- cause a significant degradation in mission capability to an extent and duration that the organization is able to perform its primary functions, but the effectiveness of the functions is significantly reduced;
- result in significant damage to organizational assets;
- result in significant financial loss; or
- result in significant harm to individuals that does not involve loss of life or serious life threatening injuries.

**Network Security Operations Center (NSOC)**

As defined in §2059.001(1), Texas Government Code.

**Personal Identifying Information (PII)**

A category of personal identity information as defined by §521.002(a)(1), Business and Commerce Code.

**Procedure**

Instructions to assist information security staff, custodians, and users in implementing policies, standards and guidelines.

**Residual Risk**

The risk that remains after security controls have been applied.

**Risk**

The effect on the entity's missions, functions, image, reputation, assets, or constituencies considering the probability that a threat will exploit a vulnerability, the safeguards already in place, and the resulting impact. Risk outcomes are a consequence of Impact levels defined in this section.

**Risk Assessment**

The process of identifying, evaluating, and documenting the level of impact on an organization's mission, functions, image, reputation, assets, or individuals that may result from the operation of information systems. Risk Assessment incorporates threat and vulnerability analyses and considers mitigations provided by planned or in-place security controls.

**Risk Management**

The process of aligning information resources risk exposure with the organization's risk tolerance by either accepting, transferring, or mitigating risk exposures.

**Security Incident**

An event which results in the accidental or deliberate unauthorized access, loss, disclosure, modification, disruption, or destruction of information or information resources.

**Sensitive Personal Information**

A category of personal identity information as defined by §521.002(a)(2), Business and Commerce Code.

**Standards**

Specific mandatory controls that help enforce and support the information security policy.

**Threat**

Any circumstance or event with the potential to adversely impact organizational operations (including mission, functions, image, or reputation), organizational assets, or individuals.

**User of an Information Resource**

An individual, process, or automated application authorized to access an information resource in accordance with federal and state law, agency policy, and the information-owner's procedures and rules.

**Vulnerability Assessment**

A documented evaluation containing information described in §2054.077(b), Texas Government Code which includes the susceptibility of a particular system to a specific attack.