
ITS-01: Policy Exception Standard

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1. Purpose

The purpose of the Policy Exception Standard is to define the organization's requirements for enforcing effective policy exception management.

The University of Nebraska System ("University") is committed to safeguarding its information and computing infrastructure upon which the teaching, research, community service, and healthcare functions rely. Additionally, the University is strongly committed to maintaining the security and privacy of confidential personal information and other data it collects or stores.

To guide the University community in achieving these objectives, the University has established policies, standards, and procedures that all users are required to follow. However, the University also recognizes that there may be academic and research pursuits that require deviations from these policies, standards, and procedures. Therefore, the University has developed an exceptions process that users may utilize to justify such deviations and document the associated risks.

2. Scope

This standard applies to all University ITS standards and technology assets. Any information not specifically identified as the property of other parties, that is transmitted or stored on Information Systems (including email, messages, and files) shall be considered the property of the University and to which this standard applies. All users (employees, contractors, vendors, or others) of Information Systems are responsible for adhering to this standard.

3. Standard Statement

It is the intention of this Standard to establish a policy exception process throughout the University to help the organization implement security best practices. The following subsections outline the Policy Exception Standard.

Only information systems that are compliant with University IT Policies, Executive Memoranda, Standards, Controls, Procedures and/or Information Systems that have received exceptions through this process shall be covered by the University insurance policies, including cyber security.

4. Policy Exception Requirements

4.1 Exception Requirements

Any exception request for a specific Policy, Executive Memorandum, Standard, Control, or Procedure section/control must provide the following information relevant to the request:

4.1.1 IT Security Exception Standing Committee

The IT Security Exception Standing Committee will consist of a diverse group of IT professionals from ITS and Distributed IT representing organizations across the University System. The committee serves at the discretion of the AVP for IT Security and the committee will provide recommendations based on the impact of IT Policies, Executive Memoranda, Standards, Controls, Procedures, and the risk the exception presents to the operation of Information Systems.

4.1.2 Exception Approvals

The Office of the Vice President of Information Technology, in collaboration with the Office of the Vice President and General Counsel, will assess the level of risk associat3n

3. If conditional approval is granted, the request is assigned to the IT Security Exception Standing Committee for review.
- 4.

5. Procedures

Procedures specific to this Standard are to be documented and maintained by the individual service owners throughout the University system.

6. Compliance

Compliance Measurement

The University of Nebraska IT Security Services team will verify compliance to this Standard through various methods, including but not limited to, business tool reports, internal and external audits, and feedback to the Standard owner.

Non-Compliance