PROPOSED PART 121 OF THE COMMISSIONER'S REGULATIONS





Strengthening Data Privacy and Security in NY State Educational Agencies to Protect Personally Identifiable Information



INITIAL DRAFT REGULATIONS
PRESENTED TO BOARD OF
REGENTS

JAN 2019



PUBLIC SUBMITS FEEDBACK AND REGULATIONS REFINED

JAN 2019 - DEC 2019



BOARD OF REGENTS CONSIDERS ADOPTION

JAN 2020



EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES ADOPT DATA SECURITY AND PRIVACY POLICY

JULY 1, 2020

DEVELOPED BY:



VERSION DATE:

OCTOBER 2019

NYS RICS OVERVIEW:

12 NYS centers organized under and supporting the 37 BOCES to provide shared technology services.

PROPOSED PART 121 REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW

Following this page, there is a one-page resource related to each of the requirements noted below.

PROTECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION (PII)



Regulations 121.2 and 121.5 Protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information of students (FERPA) and personally identifiable information of teachers and principals (APPR)

BILL OF RIGHTS FOR DATA PRIVACY AND SECURITY



Regulations 121.3

Adopt and post on website a Parents' Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security, with supplemental information about each written agreement with a third-party contractor (vendor) that involves disclosure of PII

DATA SECURITY AND PRIVACY POLICY



Regulations 121.5

Adopt and post a Data Security and Privacy Policy that includes adherence to the NIST Cybersecurity Framework to protect PII

NIST CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORK



Regulations 121.5

Apply the planning, processes, and categories of information protection defined within the NIST Cybersecurity Framework to district practices and systems

THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTS



Regulations 121.2, 121.3, 121.6, 121.9, 121.10

Whenever the educational agency discloses PII to a third-party contractor, ensure that the written agreement for using the product or services includes the language required by Education Law

ANNUAL EMPLOYEE TRAINING



Regulations 121.5 and 121.7

Deliver annual privacy and security awareness training to all employees

UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE COMPLAINT PROCEDURES



Regulations 121.4

Create and publish a unauthorized disclosure complaint process

INCIDENT REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION



Regulations 121.10

Follow reporting and notification procedures when unauthorized disclosure occurs

DATA PROTECTION OFFICER



Regulations 121.8

Appoint a Data Protection Officer to oversee implementation of Education Law 2-d responsibilities

PROTECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION (PII)



Districts leverage data to advance the goals of improving academic achievement, empowering parents and students with information, and advancing efficient and effective school operations. **Districts need to balance these benefits and the responsibility to minimize the collection and transmission of PII in order to reduce risk**. Specifically, educational agencies must ensure that every use of PII by the educational agency benefits students. Additionally, educational agencies can not sell or disclose PII for commercial purposes. To learn more about this requirement, agencies can review Part 121.2 and 121.5 of the Regulations.

PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION

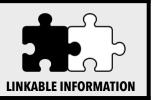
Personally identifiable information (PII) includes information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity either directly or indirectly through linkages with other information.











DISCLOSURE AVOIDANCE PROCEDURES

Educational Agencies must ensure personally identifiable information is not included in public reports or other documents.

Disclosure avoidance procedures are efforts made to protect PII in aggregate

reports and public documents. These strategies reduce the risk of disclosure of PII. The diagram to the right highlights three commonly used disclosure avoidance methods. To learn more about disclosure avoidance

practices, agencies can

SUPPRESSION

BLURRING

PERTURBATION

Involves removing data to prevent identification of small groups

Involves reducing the precision of the disclosed data to minimize identification

Involves making small changes to the data to prevent identification of unique groups

visit https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/. This website is a service of the U.S. Department of Education's Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) and the Family Policy Compliance Office.

BILL OF RIGHTS FOR DATA PRIVACY AND SECURITY



A Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security must be published on the website of each educational agency and must be included with every contract an educational agency enters into with a third-party contractor that receives personally identifiable information. The table below highlights required terms that must be included in the Parents' Bill of Rights. To learn more about this requirement, agencies can review Part 121.3 of the Regulations and Section 3 of Education Law 2-d.











INFORMATION ABOUT THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTS

Educational agencies are required to **post information about third-party contracts on the agency's website** with the Bill of Rights. The table below provides an example of supplemental information. Supplemental information may be redacted to the extent necessary to safeguard the data. To learn more about this requirement, review Part 121.3 of the Regulations.

CONTRACTOR AND PRODUCT NAME **EXCLUSIVE PURPOSES FOR DATA USE DATA ACCURACY/CORRECTION PRACTICES** Parents and eligible students can challenge the accuracy of any student data by following the school district's procedure The exclusive purposes for which the student data [or for requesting the amendment of education records under teacher or principal data] will be used by the third-party the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). contractor include ____. Teachers and principals may challenge the accuracy of APPR data by following the appeal procedure in the school district's APPR Plan. **SECURITY PRACTICES SUBCONTRACTOR OVERSIGHT DETAILS** This contract has no subcontractors. OR The data is stored ___ The contractor will ensure subcontractors abide by data • The security protections to ensure data will be protected protection and security requirements, including but not include _____. limited to those outlined in applicable state and federal laws and regulations by _ **CONTRACT LIFECYCLE PRACTICES ENCRYPTION PRACTICES** The agreement expires ______. Data encryption is applied in accordance with Education • When the agreement expires, the student data [or teacher Law §2-d. or principal data] will be _____

DATA SECURITY AND PRIVACY POLICY



Education Law 2-d requires educational agencies to adopt a policy on data security and privacy by July 1, 2020. The chart below highlights some of the components that will be addressed in this policy and related procedures. Additionally, the law requires educational agencies to publish the policy on the district's website. To learn more about this requirement, agencies can review Part 121.5 of the Regulations.

DATA SECURITY AND PRIVACY POLICY SAMPLE AREAS OF FOCUS



NIST CSF ALIGNED PRACTICES

NIST Cybersecurity Framework aligned practices



DATA GOVERNANCE

ensure every use of PII benefits students and the educational agency



DISCLOSURE AVOIDANCE

protection of PII in public reports



STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS

FERPA, IDEA, and other laws



DATA PROTECTION OFFICER

employee responsible for the implementation of the policies



ANNUAL EMPLOYEE TRAINING

privacy and security awareness training



COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

complaints about breaches or unauthorized releases of student data



INCIDENT REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION

report the breach to the NYSED CPO and impacted stakeholders

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE



NYSED MODEL POLICY AVAILABLE

WINTER 2019



LOCAL MODEL POLICIES AVAILABLE

WINTER 2019



EDUCATIONAL AGENCY ADOPTS DATA SECURITY AND PRIVACY POLICY

BY JULY 1, 2020



POLICY IS POSTED ON WEBSITE AND NOTICE PROVIDED TO OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

BY JULY 1, 2020



DATA PROTECTION OFFICER MONITORS COMPLIANCE

ONGOING

NIST CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORK



Education Law 2-d requires educational agencies to adopt a policy on data security and privacy that aligns with the NIST Cybersecurity Framework, or NIST CSF. At the center of the NIST CSF is the Framework Core, which is a set of activities and desired outcomes designed to help organizations manage data security and privacy risk. Districts will use the Target Profile, Current Profile, and Action Plan, described below, to apply these activities. To learn more about this requirement, agencies will review the NYS K-12 Target Profile, supplemental resources and Part 121.5 of the Regulations.

MAIN COMPONENTS OF THE CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORK

NIST FRAMEWORK CORE



The Core is a set of **SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES TO MANAGE DATA SECURITY AND PRIVACY RISK**. The Core is organized into functions, categories, and subcategories.



PROFILES AND EDUCATIONAL AGENCY ACTION PLANS

TARGET **PROFILE**

CURRENT PROFILE

GAP ANALYSIS

ACTION PLAN

MANAGEMENT















STATE NYS K-12 TARGET PROFILE DEVELOPED

common desired cybersecurity outcomes are prioritized in the NYS K-12 Target Profile

AGENCIES DETERMINE THEIR CURRENT PROFILE

educational agencies identify the current state of their cybersecurity activities in the Current Profile

AGENCIES ANALYZE AND PRIORITIZE GAPS

agencies identify gaps by comparing the profiles and then prioritize the mitigation of those gaps

AGENCIES DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT ACTION PLANS

educational agencies develop plans to address gaps and adjusts practices in order to achieve the Target Profile

THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTS



A third-party contractor is any person or entity, other than an educational agency, that receives student data or teacher or principal data from an educational agency pursuant to a contract or other written agreement for purposes of providing services to such educational agency, including but not limited to data management, conducting studies, or evaluation of publicly funded programs. To learn more about this requirement, agencies can review Part 121.2, 121.3, 121.6, 121.9, and 121.10 of the Regulations.



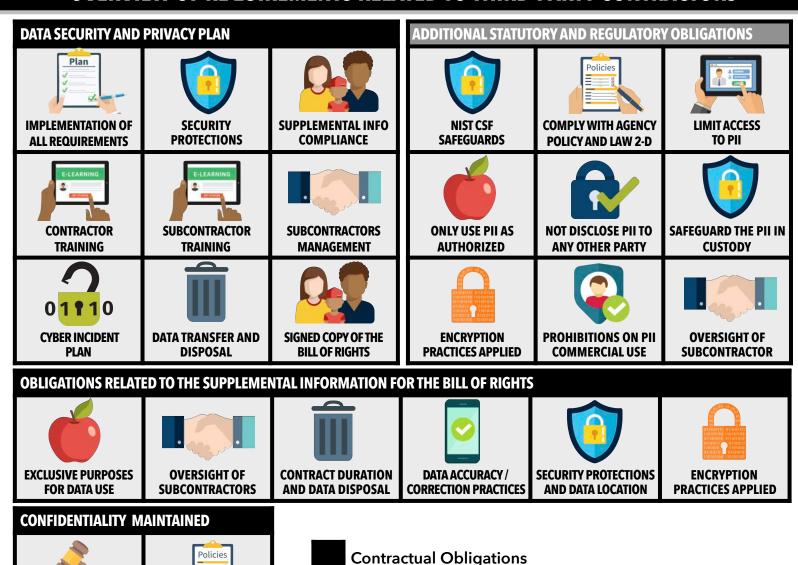
IN ACCORDANCE WITH

LAWS

IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGENCY POLICY

Agreements created in electronic form and signed with an electronic or digital signature or **CLICKWRAP AGREEMENTS** used with software licenses, downloaded and/or online applications and transactions for educational technologies and other technologies in which a user must agree to terms and conditions prior to using the product or service **ARE SUBJECT TO EDUCATION LAW 2-D REQUIREMENTS**.

OVERVIEW OF REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTORS



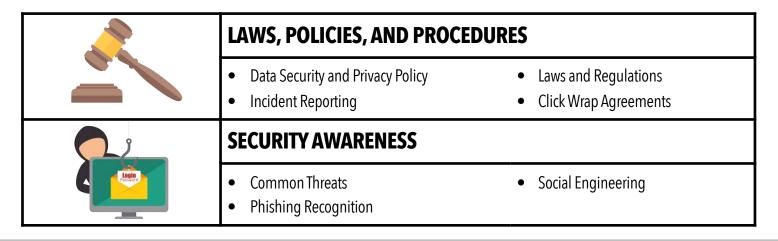
Additional Statutory and Regulatory Obligations

ANNUAL EMPLOYEE TRAINING



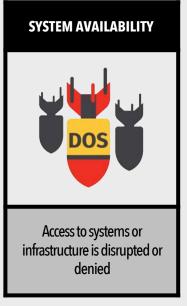
Educational agencies shall **annually provide data privacy and security awareness training** to their officers and **employees with access to personally identifiable information**. Training should include training on the state and federal laws, and how employees can comply with such laws. To learn more about this requirement, agencies can review Part 121.5 and 121.7 of the Regulations.

SUGGESTED PRIVACY AND SECURITY AWARENESS TRAINING TOPICS



K-12 THREAT LANDSCAPE

As educational agencies assess employee training needs, the most prominent NYS K-12 threat categories should be considered. This information can also inform agencies' NIST align Cybersecurity Action Plans.









These four areas were identified based on information from the following resources: Verizon Data Breach Investigations Report, Gartner Research, Homeland Security/US-Cert/CIS/MS-ISAC, NYS Troopers, FBI, NYS Office of Information Technology Services, NYS Comptroller Audit Findings, K-12 Cybersecurity Resource Center, PTAC, CoSN, Ponemon Institute Cost of Data Breach Report, Microsoft Security Intelligence Report, Data Quality Campaign, Statewide RIC Data, and Global News Outlets.

UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE COMPLAINT PROCEDURES



Educational agencies must **establish and communicate** to parents, eligible students, principals, teachers, and other staff of an educational agency **procedures to file complaints about breaches or unauthorized releases of student data and/or protected teacher or principal data**. To learn more about this requirement, agencies can review Part 121.4 of the Regulations.

COMPLAINTS SUBMISSION PROCEDURE



Procedures to support submission of complaints of breach and unauthorized release of PII

DISTRICT INVESTIGATION AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE



Procedures to support the investigation of complaints and the communication of findings within 60 calendar days

DISTRICT MAINTENANCE OF RELATED RECORDS



Procedures to support record retention of all complaints and their disposition

MODEL COMPLAINT LOG

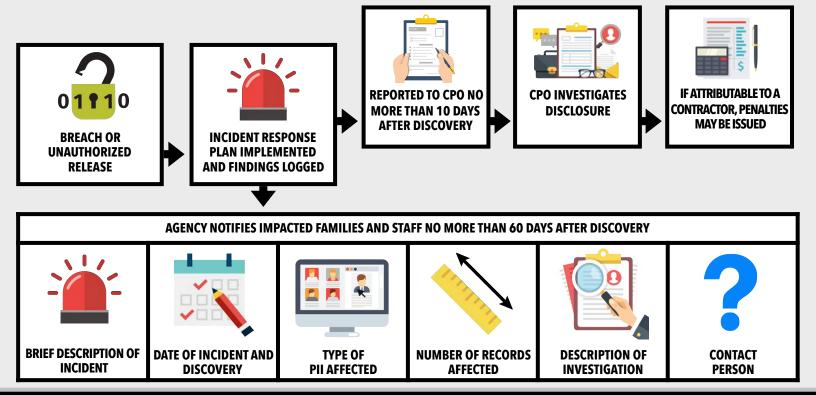
COMPLAINANT NAME	DATE COMPLAINT SUBMITTED
DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPLAINT	
FINDINGS	
DATE THE FINDING REPORT WAS SHARED WITH COMPLAINANT	

INCIDENT REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION



Educational agencies shall report every discovery or report of a breach or unauthorized release of student, teacher or principal data to the Chief Privacy Officer and notify impacted stakeholders. To learn more about this requirement, agencies can review Part 121.10 of the Regulations.

EDUCATIONAL AGENCY INCIDENT REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION STEPS



MODEL PARENT / STAFF INCIDENT NOTIFICATION LETTER

This letter is to inform you of an incident that occurred within the [insert system]. This incident resulted in student/staff/etc data being compromised by an outside entity. Our Incident Response Team acted quickly to assess and mitigate the situation.

[insert a brief description of the breach or unauthorized release; the dates of the incident and the date of discovery; a description of the types of personally identifiable information affected; an estimate of the number of records affected; a brief description of the educational agency's investigation or plan to investigate]

Please know that our district is committed to protecting and securing educational data. Our team has extensive training in data security and privacy, and our systems have many controls in place to protect your child's educational records. Our team is working with a group of experts to review the incident and implement appropriate measures to protect against this type of incident occurring in the future. Please contact [insert name] with any questions you may have regarding this incident and our response.

DATA PROTECTION OFFICER



Each educational agency must **designate a Data Protection Officer** to be **responsible for the implementation** of the policies and procedures required in **Education Law 2-d**. The designee will also serve as the point of contact for data security and privacy for the educational agency. To learn more about this requirement, agencies can review Part 121.8 of the Regulations.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES, QUALIFICATIONS, AND CONSIDERATIONS

Job Responsibilities:

- Serve as the point of contact for data security and privacy for the educational agency.
- Implement privacy governance measures to manage the use of personally identifiable information to ensure compliance with Education Law 2-d.
- Coordinate the implementation of the policies and procedures required under Education Law 2-d and Part 121.
- Monitor the educational agency's compliance with state and federal data privacy laws and regulations.
- Develop an incident response plan and a procedure for stakeholders to file complaints about breaches or unauthorized releases of student data.
- Facilitate the delivery of an annual information privacy and security awareness training.
- Review projects, contracts and procurements that will create, collect or process personally identifiable information for compliance.
- Develop and maintain the educational agencies Data Security and Privacy Action Plan.

Preferred Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Must have appropriate knowledge, training and experience to implement the district's data security and privacy program, in compliance with Education Law 2-d.
- Ability to interact effectively with people at all organizational levels of the agency.
- Ability to exercise leadership, influence change and implement solutions.
- Ability to handle confidential and sensitive information with discretion.

Organizational Relationships:

- Reporting structure provides access to leaders with decision making authority
- Reports annually to the Board of Education on the agency's data security and privacy posture
- Collaborates with stakeholders (IT, internal audit, school attorneys, etc.) to fulfill this role

