

I. 5.8.23 Back-Up and Disaster Recovery Policy

Chapter 5 - Information Technology	Original Effective Date: October 2004
Section: 5.8 Information Security	Date Last Reviewed: October 2025
Responsible Entity: Chief Information Security Officer	Date Last Revised: October 2025

II. Purpose

Creating a back-up of data that can be safely stored in another location is essential to business continuity in the event of loss of the computer system or media on which the data natively resides or unintended deletion or modification of the data. Each Information Resource Owner should ensure that data back-up processes and procedures are documented with defined recovery point and time objectives.

III. Scope

This policy applies to all current and former faculty, staff, students, residents, healthcare providers, researchers, contractors, or any other third-party entities who have direct or indirect access to Information Resources created, held or maintained by UT Health San Antonio or any controlled affiliate, including, but not limited to its clinics, hospitals, and research operations.

IV. Policy

- A. All UT Health San Antonio data, including data associated with research, must be backed up in accordance with risk management decisions implemented by the Data Owner. A back-up plan must be documented and include procedures for:
 1. Recovering data and applications in case of events such as natural disasters, system disk drive failures, espionage, data entry errors, human error, system operations errors, or unauthorized access that modifies or deletes the data;
 2. Assigning operational responsibility for backing up of all Servers;
 3. Scheduling data back-ups based on recovery point and time objectives;
 4. Establishing requirements for off-site storage;
 5. Securing on-site/off-site storage and media in transit; and
 6. Testing back-up and recovery procedures and integrity of back-up media.

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B. Owners of Mission Critical Information Resources and of Information Resources containing Confidential Data must adopt a disaster recovery plan commensurate with the risk and value of the Information Resource and data. The disaster recovery plan must incorporate procedures for:

1. Recovering data and applications in the case of events that deny access to Information Resources for an extended period (e.g., natural disasters, security incident);
2. Assigning operational responsibility for recovery tasks and communicating step-by-step implementation instructions;
3. Testing the disaster recovery plan procedures every two years at minimum; and
4. Making the disaster recovery plan available to the Chief Information Security Officer and other stakeholders.

C. Accountability

1. Violations of this policy are subject to disciplinary action as described in the Institutional Handbook of Operating Policies [4.9.3 Progressive Disciplinary Action](#).

V. Definitions

There are no defined terms used in this Policy.

VI. Related References

UT System (UTS) Policy

[165.2.4 Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery Standard](#)

VII. Review and Approval History

The approving authority of this policy is the University Executive Committee.

Effective Date	Action Taken	Approved By	Approved Date
10/2004	Policy Origination		
10/2016	Policy Revision		
02/2023	Policy Review/Discretionary Edits		
10/2025	Policy Review/Discretionary Edits	ICPO/CISO	10/2025