

# **Information Technology (IT) System Risk Assessment (RA) Standard**

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**U.S. Department of Education (ED)  
Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)  
Information Assurance Services (IAS)**



Questions about the policies outlined in this document should be directed to Information Assurance Services (IAS) at [OCIO\\_IAS@ed.gov](mailto:OCIO_IAS@ed.gov)

## **APPROVAL**

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## Revision History

The table below identifies all changes that have been incorporated into this document.

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Summary of Changes</b>
1.0	12/22/2021	Initial draft of new standard which combines NIST SP 800-53, Revision 5 controls, including ED specific control parameter values, with existing policy standards.
1.1	1/14/2022	Update to incorporate feedback from Information Assurance Services (IAS), Governance, Risk and Policy (GRP) Team.
1.2	1/31/2022	Update to incorporate feedback from IAS; address new security measures required by Executive Order (EO) 14028, including Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations and memoranda and updated NIST guidance issued to comply with the EO.

## Table of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1	Purpose.....	1
1.2	Scope.....	1
2	STANDARDS.....	1
2.1	RA-1 Risk Assessment Policy and Procedures (P, L, M, H) .....	2
2.2	RA-2 Security Categorization (L, M, H and Control Overlay).....	3
2.3	RA-3 Risk Assessment (P, L, M, H and Control Overlay) .....	3
2.4	RA-5 Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning (L, M, H) .....	5
2.5	RA-7 Risk Response (P, L, M, H) .....	6
2.6	RA-8 Privacy Impact Assessments (P) .....	6
2.7	RA-9 Criticality Analysis (M, H) .....	6
3	RISK ACCEPTANCE/POLICY EXCEPTIONS .....	6
4	ACRONYMS .....	8
5	APPENDIX A - BASELINE CONTROL PARAMETER SUMMARY .....	10
6	APPENDIX B - VULNERABILITY SCAN FREQUENCY AND REMEDIATION REQUIREMENTS.....	14

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Purpose

The Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA)<sup>1</sup> and implementing regulation Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-130, *Managing Information as a Strategic Resource*<sup>2</sup>, requires each federal agency to develop, document, and implement an agency-wide program to provide information security for the information and information systems that support the operations and assets of the agency, including those provided or managed by another agency, contractor, or other source, and services that are either fully or partially provided, including agency-hosted, outsourced, and cloud-based solutions. Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Publication 200, *Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems*<sup>3</sup>, mandates the use of National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication (SP) 800-53, *Security and Privacy Controls for Information Systems and Organizations*<sup>4</sup>, as baseline information system controls.

This governance document establishes Department information technology (IT) system risk assessment controls standards necessary to improve the efficiency of operation or security of Department information systems and comply with Federal laws, regulations, Executive Orders, Emergency Orders, Binding Operational Directives, and Department Administrative Communications System (ACS) directives and policies. In doing so, these standards supersede any prior governance documentation establishing such standards.

## 1.2 Scope

These standards apply to all information and information systems that support the operations and assets of the Department, including those provided or managed by another agency, contractor, or other source, as well as services that are either fully or partially provided, including Department-hosted, outsourced, and cloud-based solutions. Principal Offices, employees, contractors, external service providers and system users are required to comply with these risk assessment control standards.

# 2 STANDARDS

The Department standards for IT system risk assessment controls are organized to follow the order in which controls are presented in the current version of NIST SP 800-53. To define a control baseline for Department information systems, a FIPS 199 categorization level (e.g., Low (L), Moderate (M) and High (H)) is assigned to each requirement. This designator indicates a

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<sup>1</sup> Public Law 113-283-Dec. 18, 2014, <https://www.congress.gov/113/plaws/publ283/PLAW-113publ283.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-130, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/whitehouse.gov/files/omb/circulars/A130/a130revised.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> FIPS 200, <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/fips/nist.fips.200.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> NIST SP 800-53, <https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-53/rev-5/final>

requirement applies to information systems categorized at that FIPS 199 impact-level. Designators are also used to indicate when NIST SP 800-53 Privacy (P) baseline controls are required. To manage risk to within the Department's risk tolerance and appetite, control overlays are provided when the Department requires implementation of control(s) that are not required by the FIPS 199 impact-level or privacy baseline. In addition to the controls required by this standard, High Value Assets (HVAs) must implement and comply with the current version of the HVA Control Overlay issued and maintained by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

This standard directly supports the Department's integration of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) in focusing on using business drivers to guide cybersecurity activities and considering cybersecurity risks as part of the Department's risk management processes. Refer to Appendix A for a summary of controls by baseline and corresponding NIST CSF categories and subcategories.

## **2.1 RA-1 Risk Assessment Policy and Procedures (P, L, M, H)**

The Department shall develop, document, and disseminate to all ED employees, contractors, and users authorized to access to ED information systems, or systems operated or maintained on behalf of ED, or ED information as defined in OCIO: 3-112/ACSD-OCIO-004, *Cybersecurity Policy* a Department-level IT system risk assessment policy (e.g., this document) that:

- (a) addresses purpose, scope, roles, responsibilities, management commitment, coordination among organizational entities, and compliance; and
- (b) is consistent with applicable laws, executive orders, directives, regulations, policies, standards, and guidelines.
- (c) authorizes the Department Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and Department Chief Information Officer (CIO) to issue subordinate standards, procedures, and memos, with the same authority and enforcement as OCIO: 3-112/ACSD-OCIO-004, *Cybersecurity Policy*.

The Department CISO in conjunction with the Senior Agency Official for Privacy (SAOP) are designated to manage the development, documentation, and dissemination of the Department-level IT system risk assessment policy.

This policy shall be reviewed and updated annually (i.e., each fiscal year) and following the identification of evolving threats, issuance of new or significantly changed existing Federal laws, executive orders, directives, regulations, and ED policies, identification of emerging technology and information technology service delivery models and determination that adjustments are deemed necessary to improve its effectiveness based upon feedback from Principal Office personnel.

Principal Office (PO) Information System Owners (ISO) and Information System Security Officers (ISSOs) are required to manage the development, documentation, and dissemination of

system specific procedures to facilitate the implementation of this policy standard and associated risk assessment controls. The ISO and ISSO shall review IT system risk assessment procedures annually (i.e., each fiscal year) and following the identification of evolving threats, issuance of new or significantly changed existing Federal laws, executive orders, directives, regulations, and ED policies, identification of emerging technology and information technology service delivery models and determination that adjustments are deemed necessary to improve its effectiveness based upon feedback from Principal Office personnel.

## **2.2 RA-2 Security Categorization (L, M, H and Control Overlay)**

- a. Categorize the system and information it processes, stores, and transmits;
- b. Document the security categorization results, including supporting rationale, in the security plan for the system; and
- c. Verify that the Authorizing Official (AO) or AO Designated Representative reviews and approves the security categorization decision.

**Control Overlay RA-2 ED-01 (L, M, H):** Affirm through the issuance of this standard that the Department's Cyber Security Assessment and Management (CSAM) tool is the authoritative source for developing, managing and maintaining the information technology (IT) systems; the system of record for FISMA reporting; and the enterprise tool used to support Cybersecurity Risk Management Framework (CRMF) processes.

**Control Overlay RA-2 ED-02 (L, M, H):** Use CSAM tool functionality to:

- a. Document information types and conduct the security categorization of information systems in accordance with the current, finalized version of FIPS Publications 199 and NIST SP 800-60, as amended. Note: "Other" is not a valid business area or information type.
- b. Review and maintain information types as required to maintain the accuracy of the information types and security categorization of systems throughout the system lifecycle.

**Control Overlay RA-2 ED-03 (L, M, H):** Assign a minimum impact level of "Moderate" for the confidentiality security objective for systems involving Personally Identifiable Information (PII). Elevate the confidentiality security objective to "High" if warranted by a risk-based assessment.

**Control Overlay RA-2 ED-04 (L, M, H):** Assign a minimum impact level of "Moderate" for confidentiality, integrity, and availability for all CFO Designated Systems. Elevate the integrity objective to "High" if warranted by a risk-based assessment.

## **2.3 RA-3 Risk Assessment (P, L, M, H and Control Overlay)**

- a. Conduct a risk assessment, including:
  1. Identifying threats to and vulnerabilities in the system;

2. Determining the likelihood and magnitude of harm from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of the system, the information it processes, stores, or transmits, and any related information; and
  3. Determining the likelihood and impact of adverse effects on individuals arising from the processing of personally identifiable information;
- b. Integrate risk assessment results and risk management decisions from the organization and mission or business process perspectives with system-level risk assessments;
  - c. Document risk assessment results in the Security Assessment Report (SAR), PIA, when a PIA is required, and the Facility Risk Assessment Report, which is required when a system is deployed in a traditional, non-cloud-based datacenter or hosting environment.
  - d. Review risk assessment results annually or whenever an update to the risk assessment is made.
  - e. Disseminate risk assessment results to the AO, CISO, SAOP, ISO, and ISSO.
  - f. Update the risk assessment in accordance with the frequency defined in Department policy for each risk result documentation type or when there are significant changes to the system, its environment of operation, or other conditions that may impact the security or privacy state of the system.

**Control Overlay RA-3 ED-01 (L, M, H):** Use the ED CSF Risk Scorecard to:

- a. Define risk profiles which align and prioritize cybersecurity activities with business/mission requirements, risk tolerance/appetite, and resources.
- b. Perform regular NIST CSF-based risk assessments of FISMA-reportable systems, including HVAs, to identify gaps, improvement opportunities and support enhancements to incident response capabilities.
- c. Enable the AO, ISO, and ISSO to view, understand, and manage cybersecurity risk to their assigned systems.
- d. Inform cybersecurity strategic planning activities.

### **2.3.1 RA-3(1) Risk Assessment | Supply Chain Risk Assessment (L, M, H)**

- a. Assess supply chain risks associated with ED systems, components, and services as defined in the ED Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) Roadmap and Plan.
- b. Update the supply chain risk assessment annually or as defined in the ED ICT SCRM Roadmap and Plan or the Department's Supply Chain Risk Management standard, when there are significant changes to the relevant supply chain, or when changes to the system, environments of operation, or other conditions may necessitate a change in the supply chain.



## **2.4 RA-5 Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning (L, M, H)**

- a. Monitor and scan for vulnerabilities in the system and hosted applications in accordance with Appendix B: Vulnerability Scan Frequency and Remediation Requirements and when new vulnerabilities potentially affecting the system are identified and reported. and as follows:
- b. Employ vulnerability monitoring tools and techniques that facilitate interoperability among tools and automate parts of the vulnerability management process by using standards for:
  1. Enumerating platforms, software flaws, and improper configurations
  2. Formatting checklists and test procedures
  3. Measuring vulnerability impact
- c. Analyze vulnerability scan reports and results from vulnerability monitoring.
- d. Remediate legitimate vulnerabilities in as required to comply with the response times defined in Appendix B: Vulnerability Scan Frequency and Remediation Requirements and in accordance with an organizational assessment of risk;
- e. Share information obtained from the vulnerability monitoring process and control assessments with ISO, ISSOs, and other relevant system stakeholders to help eliminate similar vulnerabilities in other systems.
- f. Employ vulnerability monitoring tools that include the capability to readily update the vulnerabilities to be scanned.

### **2.4.1 RA-5(2) Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning | Update Vulnerabilities to be Scanned (L, M, H)**

Update the system vulnerabilities to be scanned no more than 24 hours prior to conducting a scan and in accordance with each tool's vendor data definition releases.

### **2.4.2 RA-5(4) Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning | Discoverable Information (H)**

Determine information about the system that is discoverable and take the following actions:

- a. Notify the ISO and ISSO, move or obfuscate the discoverable information or take other actions, as appropriate.
- b. Share the discoverable information with the ED Security Operations Center (EDSOC) within one (1) hour of identification if it is determined that knowledge of the discoverable information could be detrimental to a system's security posture.

### **2.4.3 RA-5(5) Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning | Privileged Access (M, H)**

Implement privileged access authorization to all information system components as applicable (e.g., operating system, database, web application, containers, etc.) for all vulnerability scanning activities.

#### **2.4.4 RA-5(11) Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning | Public Disclosure Program (L, M, H and Control Overlay)**

Establish a public reporting channel for receiving reports of vulnerabilities in organizational systems and system components.

*Control Overlay RA-5(11) ED-01 (L, M, H):* Develop, publish, and maintain a Vulnerability Disclosure Policy which complies with Department of Homeland Security, Binding Operational Directive 20-01.

#### **2.5 RA-7 Risk Response (P, L, M, H)**

Respond to findings from security and privacy assessments, monitoring, and audits in accordance with organizational risk tolerance.

#### **2.6 RA-8 Privacy Impact Assessments (P)**

Conduct Privacy Impact Assessments for systems, programs, or other activities before:

- a. Developing or procuring information technology that processes personally identifiable information; and
- b. Initiating a new collection of personally identifiable information that:
  1. Will be processed using information technology.
  2. Includes personally identifiable information permitting the physical or virtual (online) contacting of a specific individual, if identical questions have been posed to, or identical reporting requirements imposed on, ten or more individuals, other than agencies, instrumentalities, or employees of the federal government.

#### **2.7 RA-9 Criticality Analysis (M, H)**

Identify critical system components and functions by performing a criticality analysis for all FISMA reportable systems and critical system components initially at the system design/architectural design phase of the Enterprise Program Management Review Framework (EPMR) and continuously through the entire lifecycle, including operations and maintenance (O&M) phase if there are significant system changes impacting criticality of system components.

### **3 RISK ACCEPTANCE/POLICY EXCEPTIONS**

Deviations from the Department policies, Instructions, Standards, Procedures or Memos must be approved and documented through the Department's Risk Acceptance process. Deviations that introduce additional risks to the enterprise must be submitted through the Department Risk Acceptance Form (RAF) and must be approved by the ED CISO (as delegated). Requests must justify the reason for the deviation(s)/exception(s) as well as the compensating security controls implemented to secure the device or information, if applicable. Policy deviations that do not

introduce additional risks do not need to be submitted through the Department RAF but will need to be approved by the Department CISO (as delegated).

## 4 ACRONYMS

<b>ACS</b>	Administrative Communications System
<b>AO</b>	Authorizing Official
<b>ATO</b>	Authorization to Operate
<b>CDM</b>	Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation
<b>CFO</b>	Chief Financial Officer
<b>CIO</b>	Chief Information Officer
<b>CISA</b>	Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
<b>CISO</b>	Chief Information Security Officer
<b>CRMF</b>	Cybersecurity Risk Management Framework
<b>CSAM</b>	Cyber Security Assessment and Management tool
<b>CSF</b>	Cyber Security Framework
<b>DHS</b>	Department of Homeland Security
<b>DNS</b>	Domain Name System
<b>ED</b>	Department of Education
<b>EO</b>	Executive Order
<b>EDSOC</b>	ED Security Operations Center
<b>EPMR</b>	Enterprise Program Management Review Framework
<b>FIPS</b>	Federal Information Processing Standard
<b>FISMA</b>	Federal Information Security Modernization Act
<b>HVA</b>	High Value Asset
<b>IAS</b>	Information Assurance Services
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
<b>IP</b>	Internet Protocol
<b>ISA</b>	Interconnection Security Agreement
<b>ISO</b>	Information System Owner
<b>ISSM</b>	Information System Security Manager
<b>ISSO</b>	Information Systems Security Officer

<b>ISP</b>	Internet Service Provider
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
<b>NIST</b>	National Institute of Standards and Technology
<b>OMB</b>	Office of Management and Budget
<b>O&amp;M</b>	Operations and Maintenance
<b>PIA</b>	Privacy Impact Assessment
<b>PO</b>	Principal Office
<b>POA&amp;M</b>	Plan of Action and Milestones
<b>RAF</b>	Risk Acceptance Form
<b>SAOP</b>	Senior Agency Official for Privacy
<b>SAR</b>	Security Assessment Report
<b>SCRM</b>	Supply Chain Risk Management
<b>SP</b>	Special Publication

## 5 APPENDIX A - BASELINE CONTROL PARAMETER SUMMARY

The applicability for each baseline control parameter is shown below. NIST SP 800-53 controls that are not applicable to any control baseline are shaded in gray.

Control Identifier	Control/Control Enhancement) Name	Privacy Baseline	Security Control Baseline Low	Security Control Baseline Moderate	Security Control Baseline High	CSF and Privacy Category	CSF and Privacy Subcategory
RA-1	Policy and Procedures	x	x	x	x	ID.GV, PR.IP, RS.AN, DE.DP, GV.PO-P, GV.MT-P, PR.PO-P	ID.GV-4, PR.IP-12, RS.AN-5, DE.DP-2, GV.PO-P1, GV.PO-P3, GV.PO-P5, GV.MT-P2, GV.MT-P6, GV.PO-P6, PR.PO-P10
RA-2	Security Categorization		x	x	x	ID.AM, ID.GV, ID.RA, ID.RA-P	ID.AM-5, ID.GV-4, ID.RA-4, ID.RA-5, ID.RA-P4
RA-2(1)	Security Categorization   Impact-level Prioritization					ID.AM, ID.GV, ID.RA, ID.RA-P	ID.AM-5, ID.GV-4, ID.RA-4, ID.RA-5, ID.RA-P4
RA-3	Risk Assessment	x	x	x	x	ID.GV, ID.RA, ID.SC, PR.IP, DE.AE, RS.AN, RS.MI, ID.RA-P, ID.DE-P, GV.PO-P, GV.MT-P, PR.PO-P	ID.GV-4, ID.RA-1, ID.RA-3, ID.RA-4, ID.RA-5, ID.SC-2, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-4, RS.AN-2, RS.AN-4, RS.MI-3, ID.RA-P1, ID.RA-P3, ID.RA-P4, ID.DE-P2, GV.PO-P6, GV.MT-P1, GV.MT-P5, PR.PO-P10
RA-3(1)	Risk Assessment   Supply Chain Risk Assessment		x	x	x	ID.GV, ID.RA, ID.SC, PR.IP, DE.AE, RS.AN, RS.MI, ID.RA-P, ID.DE-P, GV.PO-P, GV.MT-P, PR.PO-P	ID.GV-4, ID.RA-1, ID.RA-3, ID.RA-4, ID.RA-5, ID.SC-2, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-4, RS.AN-2, RS.AN-4, RS.MI-3, ID.RA-P1, ID.RA-P3, ID.RA-P4, ID.DE-P2, GV.PO-P6, GV.MT-P1,

Control Identifier	Control/Control Enhancement) Name	Privacy Baseline	Security Control Baseline Low	Security Control Baseline Moderate	Security Control Baseline High	CSF and Privacy Category	CSF and Privacy Subcategory
							GV.MT-P5, PR.PO-P10
RA-3(2)	Risk Assessment   Use of All-source Intelligence					ID.GV, ID.RA, ID.SC, PR.IP, DE.AE, RS.AN, RS.MI, ID.RA-P, ID.DE-P, GV.PO-P, GV.MT-P, PR.PO-P	ID.GV-4, ID.RA-1, ID.RA-3, ID.RA-4, ID.RA-5, ID.SC-2, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-4, RS.AN-2, RS.AN-4, RS.MI-3, ID.RA-P1, ID.RA-P3, ID.RA-P4, ID.DE-P2, GV.PO-P6, GV.MT-P1, GV.MT-P5, PR.PO-P10
RA-3(3)	Risk Assessment   Dynamic Threat Awareness					ID.GV, ID.RA, ID.SC, PR.IP, DE.AE, RS.AN, RS.MI, ID.RA-P, ID.DE-P, GV.PO-P, GV.MT-P, PR.PO-P	ID.GV-4, ID.RA-1, ID.RA-3, ID.RA-4, ID.RA-5, ID.SC-2, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-4, RS.AN-2, RS.AN-4, RS.MI-3, ID.RA-P1, ID.RA-P3, ID.RA-P4, ID.DE-P2, GV.PO-P6, GV.MT-P1, GV.MT-P5, PR.PO-P10
RA-3(4)	Risk Assessment   Predictive Cyber Analytics					ID.GV, ID.RA, ID.SC, PR.IP, DE.AE, RS.AN, RS.MI, ID.RA-P, ID.DE-P, GV.PO-P, GV.MT-P, PR.PO-P	ID.GV-4, ID.RA-1, ID.RA-3, ID.RA-4, ID.RA-5, ID.SC-2, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-4, RS.AN-2, RS.AN-4, RS.MI-3, ID.RA-P1, ID.RA-P3, ID.RA-P4, ID.DE-P2, GV.PO-P6, GV.MT-P1,

Control Identifier	Control/Control Enhancement) Name	Privacy Baseline	Security Control Baseline Low	Security Control Baseline Moderate	Security Control Baseline High	CSF and Privacy Category	CSF and Privacy Subcategory
							GV.MT-P5, PR.PO-P10
RA-5	Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning		x	x	x	ID.RA, PR.IP, DE.AE, DE.CM, DE.DP, RS.AN, RS.MI, PR.PO-P	ID.RA-1, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-2, DE.CM-8, DE.DP-4, DE.DP-5, RS.AN-1, RS.MI-3, PR.PO-P10
RA-5(2)	Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning   Update Vulnerabilities to Be Scanned		x	x	x	ID.RA, PR.IP, DE.AE, DE.CM, DE.DP, RS.AN, RS.MI, PR.PO-P	ID.RA-1, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-2, DE.CM-8, DE.DP-4, DE.DP-5, RS.AN-1, RS.MI-3, PR.PO-P10
RA-5(3)	Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning   Breadth and Depth of Coverage					ID.RA, PR.IP, DE.AE, DE.CM, DE.DP, RS.AN, RS.MI, PR.PO-P	ID.RA-1, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-2, DE.CM-8, DE.DP-4, DE.DP-5, RS.AN-1, RS.MI-3, PR.PO-P10
RA-5(4)	Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning   Discoverable Information				x	ID.RA, PR.IP, DE.AE, DE.CM, DE.DP, RS.AN, RS.MI, PR.PO-P	ID.RA-1, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-2, DE.CM-8, DE.DP-4, DE.DP-5, RS.AN-1, RS.MI-3, PR.PO-P10
RA-5(5)	Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning   Privileged Access			x	x	ID.RA, PR.IP, DE.AE, DE.CM, DE.DP, RS.AN, RS.MI, PR.PO-P	ID.RA-1, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-2, DE.CM-8, DE.DP-4, DE.DP-5, RS.AN-1, RS.MI-3, PR.PO-P10
RA-5(6)	Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning   Automated Trend Analyses					ID.RA, PR.IP, DE.AE, DE.CM, DE.DP, RS.AN, RS.MI, PR.PO-P	ID.RA-1, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-2, DE.CM-8, DE.DP-4, DE.DP-5, RS.AN-1, RS.MI-3, PR.PO-P10



Control Identifier	Control/Control Enhancement) Name	Privacy Baseline	Security Control Baseline Low	Security Control Baseline Moderate	Security Control Baseline High	CSF and Privacy Category	CSF and Privacy Subcategory
RA-5(8)	Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning   Review Historic Audit Logs					ID.RA, PR.IP, DE.AE, DE.CM, DE.DP, RS.AN, RS.MI, PR.PO-P	ID.RA-1, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-2, DE.CM-8, DE.DP-4, DE.DP-5, RS.AN-1, RS.MI-3, PR.PO-P10
RA-5(10)	Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning   Correlate Scanning Information					ID.RA, PR.IP, DE.AE, DE.CM, DE.DP, RS.AN, RS.MI, PR.PO-P	ID.RA-1, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-2, DE.CM-8, DE.DP-4, DE.DP-5, RS.AN-1, RS.MI-3, PR.PO-P10
RA-5(11)	Vulnerability Monitoring and Scanning   Public Disclosure Program		x	x	x	ID.RA, PR.IP, DE.AE, DE.CM, DE.DP, RS.AN, RS.MI, PR.PO-P	ID.RA-1, PR.IP-12, DE.AE-2, DE.CM-8, DE.DP-4, DE.DP-5, RS.AN-1, RS.MI-3, PR.PO-P10
RA-6	Technical Surveillance Countermeasures Survey						
RA-7	Risk Response	x	x	x	x	ID.RA, RS.AN, RS.MI, ID.RA-P	ID.RA-6, RS.AN-5, RS.MI-3, ID.RA-P5
RA-8	Privacy Impact Assessments	x				ID.RA-P, ID.DE-P, GV.PO-P, GV.MT-P, CM.PO-P	ID.RA-P1, ID.RA-P3, ID.RA-P4, ID.RA-P5, ID.DE-P2, GV.PO-P6, GV.MT-P1, GV.MT-P5, CM.PO-P1
RA-9	Criticality Analysis			x	x	ID.AM, ID.BE, ID.RA, ID.RM, ID.BE-P	ID.AM-5, ID.BE-4, ID.BE-5, ID.RA-4, ID.RM-3, ID.BE-P3
RA-10	Threat Hunting					ID.RA	ID.RA-2, ID.RA-3

## 6 APPENDIX B - VULNERABILITY SCAN FREQUENCY AND REMEDIATION REQUIREMENTS

Vulnerability scanning identifies security weaknesses within systems and allows the Department to prioritize their resources to the most critical areas. Principal Offices conduct vulnerability scans to identify and report vulnerabilities and configuration weaknesses within Department systems in accordance with requirements in the table below. The Department’s Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) program scans all in-scope IT assets for CDM integrated information systems every 72 hours at minimum.

<b>Scan Type</b>	<b>Minimum Frequency</b>	<b>Authentication Required?</b>	<b>Scope</b>
Operating System	Weekly	Yes	Ports, protocols, services, patch levels and baseline configuration
Web Application	Monthly	Yes	
Database	Monthly	Yes	
Infrastructure components (e.g., switches, routers, guards, sensors, networked printers, scanners, and copiers)	Monthly	Yes	Ports, protocols, services and baseline configuration
DHS Cyber Hygiene (e.g., Internet-accessible systems)	As conducted by DHS		All static, public IP addresses for all internet-accessible information systems, which encompasses those systems directly managed by the Department as well as those operated on the Department’s behalf. Includes any Department system that is reachable over the public internet that has a publicly routed IP address or a hostname that resolves publicly in DNS to such an address. Does not include infrastructure that is internal to the Department’s network that

Scan Type	Minimum Frequency	Authentication Required?	Scope
			<p>enables endpoints to be accessible over the internet, systems reachable from the internet but that require special configuration or access controls (e.g., via a Virtual Private Network), or shared services used by Department that are not specifically managed by the Department.</p> <p>Notify IAS (<a href="mailto:OCIO_IAS@ed.gov">OCIO_IAS@ed.gov</a>) of any changes to the Internet-facing IP inventory within three (3) days of a change; include any newly acquired public, static IPv4 addresses, or any addresses recently returned to the Internet Service Provider (ISP).</p>

Remediate legitimate vulnerabilities in accordance with the response times shown below:

Vulnerability Source	System Type	Remediation Timeframe Required
Department or Department Contractor Generated Vulnerability Scan Reports	External facing systems (including High Value Assets (HVAs) and systems or assets with FIPS 199 High categorization); an external facing system, also known as an internet-accessible federal information system, is any Department system that is reachable over the public internet that has a publicly routed IP address or a hostname that resolves publicly in DNS to such an address.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zero-Day scan vulnerabilities must be remediated within 24-48 hours of initial detection.</li> <li>• Critical (Very High) scan vulnerabilities must be remediated within 15 calendar days of initial detection.</li> <li>• High scan vulnerabilities must be remediated within 30 calendar days of initial detection.</li> <li>• Moderate scan vulnerabilities must be</li> </ul>

Vulnerability Source	System Type	Remediation Timeframe Required
		<p>remediated within 90 calendar days of initial detection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low scan vulnerabilities must be remediated within 180 calendar days of initial detection.</li> </ul>
<p>Department or Department Contractor Generated Vulnerability Scan Reports</p>	<p>Internal facing systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• System stakeholders are allowed 30 days analysis and then the following timeline applies:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Zero-Day scan vulnerabilities must be remediated within 24-48 hours of initial detection.</li> <li>- Critical (Very High) scan vulnerabilities must be remediated within 15 calendar days of initial detection.</li> <li>- High scan vulnerabilities must be remediated within 30 calendar days of initial detection.</li> <li>- Moderate scan vulnerabilities must be remediated within 90 calendar days of initial detection.</li> <li>- Low scan vulnerabilities must be remediated within 180 calendar days of initial detection.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>DHS CISA-managed catalog of known exploited vulnerabilities</p>	<p>All Department Systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remediate each vulnerability according to the timelines set forth in the CISA-managed vulnerability catalog</li> </ul>
<p>DHS Cyber Hygiene</p>	<p>All static, public IP addresses for all internet-</p>	<p>Note: vulnerability tracking begins from the time</p>

Vulnerability Source	System Type	Remediation Timeframe Required
<p>Reports</p>	<p>accessible information systems, which encompasses those systems directly managed by the Department as well as those operated on the Department’s behalf. Includes any Department system that is reachable over the public internet that has a publicly routed IP address or a hostname that resolves publicly in DNS to such an address. Does not include infrastructure that is internal to the Department’s network that enables endpoints to be accessible over the internet, systems reachable from the internet but that require special configuration or access controls (e.g., via a Virtual Private Network), or shared services used by Department that are not specifically managed by the Department.</p>	<p>of initial detection, not the time when DHS provides notification to the Department.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical vulnerabilities must be remediated <i>within 15 calendar days</i> of initial detection.</li> <li>• High vulnerabilities must be remediated <i>within 30 calendar days</i> of initial detection.</li> </ul>