



**Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services
Security Services Division
State of Mississippi Enterprise Cloud and Offsite Hosting Security Policy**

Title 36: Technology

Part 3: Enterprise Cloud and Offsite Hosting Security Policy

Part 3 Chapter 1: General Policy

Rule 1.1 Purpose

This document formally promulgates the State of Mississippi Enterprise Cloud and Offsite Hosting Security Policy. The goal of this policy is to improve the security posture of the State by establishing minimum security requirements that all agencies will adhere to, for the utilization of offsite hosting facilities including cloud computing.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 25-53-201.*

Rule 1.2 Authority

To fulfill the statutory requirements for cybersecurity, the State of Mississippi will have a comprehensive cybersecurity program (the Enterprise Security Program) to provide coordinated oversight of the cybersecurity efforts across all state agencies, including cybersecurity systems, services and development of policies, standards and guidelines.

The Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS) administers the Enterprise Security Program to execute the duties and responsibilities of the cybersecurity program.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. § 25-53-201.*

Rule 1.3 Scope

This policy applies to all state agencies; State of Mississippi employees; trusted partners; or any entity, as provided by law, authorized to operate, manage, or use State of Mississippi information and information technology (IT) systems (hereafter referred to collectively as “SOM Assets”). Agency is defined as and includes all the various state agencies, officers, departments, boards, commissions, offices, and institutions of the state (§ 25-53-3 (2)(e)).

- A. This policy includes a subset of technical requirements that are only applicable to agencies participating in the Enterprise State Network. Agencies that do not

participate in the Enterprise State Network, and thus do not have the benefit of the technical controls in place, must develop agency-specific security policies that are:

1. Appropriate to their respective environments, and
 2. Consistent with the intent of this policy.
- B. This policy addresses information regardless of what form it takes (i.e., electronic, printed, etc.), what technology is used to handle it, or what purpose(s) it serves.
- C. This policy encompasses systems, automated and manual for which the agencies have administrative responsibility, including systems managed or hosted by third parties on behalf of the agencies.

Source: Miss. Code Ann. § 25-53-201.

Rule 1.4 Cloud and Offsite Hosting Contracts and Amendments

Each agency must ensure that new contracts and amendments include the terms and conditions approved by ITS.

- A. Contracts already in force will be expected to include the terms and conditions approved by ITS at the time of next renewal, modification, or renegotiation.
- B. The terms and conditions clauses are mandatory for every engagement and exceptions will be considered non-compliant. Agencies can view the mandatory terms and conditions on the ITS website.

Source: Miss. Code Ann. § 25-53-201.

Rule 1.5 Cloud and Offsite Hosting Security

Each agency must ensure the implementation of reasonable measures to preserve the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of State of Mississippi information and information technology (IT) systems (hereafter referred to collectively as “SOM Assets”) from unauthorized use, access, disclosure, modification, or destruction. For any measure that the agency cannot directly implement due to the SOM Asset being managed by another organization, contractor, or other source, the agency must implement periodic verification/audit to ensure that the measure is properly implemented.

- A. Each agency must ensure adherence to all applicable security requirements established by the State of Mississippi Enterprise Security Policy.
 1. Each agency must ensure adherence to the baseline security controls for Cloud and Offsite Hosting implementations. The baseline security controls can be found on the ITS website.
- B. Each agency must adhere to the following for all assets encrypted at rest.
 1. Evaluate the risks with available key location and key management implementations and select the implementation that adequately protects the data;
 2. Implement security controls to reduce and mitigate risks when encryption of data at rest is not possible; and
 3. Secure and maintain adequate liability coverage when encryption of data at rest is not possible.

Source: Miss. Code Ann. § 25-53-201.

Rule 1.6 Policy Application

Each agency must adhere to all requirements in this policy.

- A. Each agency shall adhere to the more restrictive policy when conflicts exist between this policy and agency policies.
- B. Each agency shall determine the level of compliance with this policy and confirm in writing their compliance level in accordance with compliance reporting requirements of the State of Mississippi Enterprise Security Policy.
 1. Documentation must include details of where compliance with the requirements of this policy is not met and plans for mitigating the deficiencies.

Source: Miss. Code Ann. § 25-53-201.

Rule 1.7 Maintenance of the State of Mississippi Cloud and Offsite Hosting Security Policy

The revision date for this policy is July 1, 2018.

- A. ITS is responsible for routine maintenance and review of this policy. Routine maintenance and review is required to ensure that this policy is up-to-date with respect to the technological advances and changes in the business requirements of state agencies, potential threats, applicable legislation and other changes that impact information security policies, standards, guidelines and recommendations. A detailed description of the policy and standards review process is included in the Enterprise Security Program document. The Program document is available on the ITS website.

Source: Miss. Code Ann. § 25-53-201.

Rule 1.8 Exceptions to the State of Mississippi Cloud and Offsite Hosting Security Policy, Standards, Guidelines and Recommendations

- A. The only permitted exceptions to the State of Mississippi Cloud and Offsite Hosting Security Policy are those that are approved in writing by ITS for an agency's specific purpose and are only applicable to that agency's operations for the duration of time defined by the exception. A detailed description of the policy and standards exception process is included in the Enterprise Security Program document. The Program document is available on the ITS website.
- B. Each agency must inquire with the vendor and appropriate agency staff to ascertain if design alternatives, configuration changes, or additional products or services are available to attain compliance prior to submitting a request for an exception.
- C. Prior to selecting and procuring information technology products and services, each agency must consider all enterprise policies and standards when specifying, scoping, and evaluating solutions to meet current and planned requirements.

Source: Miss. Code Ann. § 25-53-201.