

Classification of Data

Classifying University data based on levels of sensitivity and value is an integral part of our data security framework at Lehigh University. It provides the foundation to allow us to protect sensitive data while simultaneously providing broad, open access to data in all of its forms. Our classification policy defines 4 classes of data from critical (Class I) to public (Class IV). Decisions about data types not explicitly defined in this policy should be made by the Data Stewards overseeing the data.

	Class I: Critical Information	Class II: Restricted Information	Class III: Institutional Confidential/Proprietary Information	Class IV: Public/Unrestricted Information
Description	Information legally classified as breach notifiable and where Lehigh University is required to self-report to the government and/or provide notice to the individual if the information is inappropriately accessed. Data of this type includes, but is not limited to, all data identified by law, specifically, Pennsylvania Statute 73 Pa. Stat. § 2301 et seq. as well as other applicable state statutes*, Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS), and specific combinations of individual financial records (Gramm-Leach Bliley Act), health care records (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)).	Information regulated or restricted by federal and/or state regulatory or legal requirements, contractual requirements, or University policy. Data of this type includes, but is not limited to, student records (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)), financial records (Gramm-Leach Bliley Act), health care records (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)), International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR)***, Export Administration Regulations (EAR)***, Red Flags Rule, Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), employment records, legal records, and certain business records.	Information at the Institutional/Proprietary level must be protected due to privacy, ethical, or proprietary constraints. Data of this type includes, but is not limited to, intellectual property and any data or documents that are not intended for public access or distribution.	Data at the Public/Unrestricted level is protected at the discretion of the department or the data owner. Data of this type includes, but is not limited to, all documents slated for public distribution, directory information as per FERPA, and any departmental data not deemed to be at a higher level of sensitivity.

Examples of Data Elements
within Specific
Classification Levels

- Social Security Numbers
- Credit Card Numbers
- Driver's license number or state identification card number issued in lieu of a driver's license
- Account number or credit card number or debit card number in combination with any required security verification code**, access code or password that would permit access to an individual's financial account.
- Passport ID Numbers and Other forms of Official Government Issued Identification
- Health Care Information, including Protected Health Information (PHI)
- A username or email address, in combination with an unencrypted password, biometric identifier, or security question and answer that would allow unauthorized access to an online account.
- Lehigh Identification Number (LIN) in combination with Personal Identification Number (PIN).

- Student grades, attendance, and performance records
- Human Subjects
 Information
- Information gathered of children under the age of 13
- Employment applications
- Employee information, including personnel files, benefits information, salary, conflict of interest filings, birth date, and personal contact information
- Privileged attorney-client communications
- Internal policy records
- Export controlled information under U.S. laws***
- Emergency and disaster recovery/incident response plans

- Lehigh Identification Numbers (LIN)
- Departmental data
- Unpublished research data
- Lehigh internal memos
- Internal reports
- Class rosters
- Marketing and forecasting reports
- Email distribution lists
- Source code
- Building diagrams and blueprints
- Donor information
- Vendor non-disclosure agreements
- Personal information that can be used to verify identity such as birth dates, mother's maiden name, photographs

- Published articles and newsletters
- Student achievements and accolades
- Published research data
- Campus maps
- Job postings
- Student enrollment numbers

Access	Access limited to those permitted under law, regulation and Lehigh University policies, and with a job-specific need and required training. External release of this type of information is only through executive management or through subpoena or warrant. Unauthorized release of this type of data could result in termination from University employment.	Access limited to those permitted under law, regulation and Lehigh University policies, and with a specific need to know. External release of this type of information is only through executive management or through subpoena or warrant. Unauthorized release of this type of data could result in termination from University employment.	Access is limited to only those individuals who have been approved for access by the data steward or custodian based on need to know. Public or external requests to release this type of information is only through management or through subpoena or warrant. Unauthorized release of this type of data could result in disciplinary action.	Access to all data not meant for public consumption is at the discretion of the department or data owner.
Transmission	NIST-approved encryption methods are required when transmitting information through a network. Prohibited data shall not be sent by email unless it is sent using an institution-approved method.	NIST-approved encryption methods are required when transmitting information through a network. Restricted data shall not be sent by email unless it is sent using an institution-approved method.	NIST-approved encryption is strongly recommended when transmitting information through a network. Institutional Confidential/Proprietary information sent by email should follow the institution guidelines.	No encryption is required for public/unrestricted information.
Storage	Prohibited information shall not be stored on any of the following media or devices: • non-Lehigh owned or personal devices • external media, including flash drives, cell phones, or any other external forms of storage (excluding University Data Center disaster recovery backups) Prohibited data shall be encrypted if utilized or stored on any end point device or local system and that data should strictly be used for	Restricted/Regulated information shall be stored in accordance with the following: • Any computers containing this type of data must be encrypted utilizing whole-disk encryption as should any system with web access to this type of data as cache files may be present. • Any storage of this type of information in a cloud environment must be in an approved Lehigh University Cloud	Institutional Confidential/Proprietary information shall be stored in accordance with the following: • It is strongly recommended that any computers containing this type of data be encrypted utilizing whole-disk encryption as should any system with web access to this type of data as cache files may be present. • Any storage of this type of information in a cloud environment must be in an	Long-term or archival storage of Lehigh University public/unrestricted data should be on qualified University-owned or Cloud services hosts, and in accordance with the Lehigh University Records Management and Retention Policy.

Storage (continued)	short-term processing and not	storage solution.	approved Lehigh	
Storage (continued)	for long-term storage.		University Cloud	
	Prohibited data should be	Any of this type of data stored on flash drives, cell phones, or	storage solution.	
	stored only on NIST-encrypted	any other external form of	It is strongly recommended	
	or other qualified	storage (including backups),	that this type of data stored on	
	University-owned hosts, and in accordance with the Lehigh University Records Management and Retention	must be in an encrypted form.	flash drives, cell phones, or any	
		Please note that while some services are approved for	other external form of storage (including backups), be in an	
			encrypted form.	
	Policy.	storage of Type II data, they cannot be used for ITAR and		
		export controlled data unless		
		they guarantee US-only storage	Long-term or archival storage of institutional	
		and confirm that the data is	confidential/proprietary data	
		not accessible by foreign nationals of restricted	should be on qualified	
		countries. In addition to	University-owned or Cloud	
		storage restrictions on this	services hosts, and in accordance with the Lehigh	
		type of data there are also restrictions on sharing such	University Records	
		data with those located in	Management and Retention	
		other countries. It is up to the	Policy.	
		data owner to determine		
		whether any export controlled data may be shared with		
		someone or transported to a		
		particular country. Guidance		
		can be found at the US Department of Commerce		
		Control List site at:		
		http://www.bis.doc.gov/index.		
		php/regulations/commerce-co		
		ntrol-list-ccl		
		Long-term or archival storage		
		of restricted/regulated data		
		should be on NIST-encrypted or other qualified		
		University-owned hosts, and in		
		accordance with the Lehigh		
		University Records		
		Management and Retention Policy.		
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*NCSL Security Breach Notification Laws by State

Pennsylvania Office of Administration Information Technology IT Security Incident Reporting Policy (PDF)

**Per PCI-DSS, card verification code or value, aka CVV, CAV, CID, CVC, should never be stored.

***Additional restrictions apply to this type of data. It must be stored within the United States and cannot be shared with those located in other countries. It is up to the data owner to determine whether any export controlled data may be shared with someone or transported to a particular country. Guidance can be found at the US Department of Commerce List site at: http://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/regulations/commerce-control-list-ccl

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