

FSA Information Security and Privacy Policy

Task Overview

The request to develop a new FSA Security and Privacy Policy came as a result of the direct need by systems, system owners, and system security officers to clearly understand FSA's position on numerous security issues. While a substantial need for procedural guidance remains, the foundation to develop this guidance must begin with clearly articulated security policies. To create this policy, we drew upon numerous Federal, Departmental, and even International guidance and standards documents. Although the effort was extensive, the value of the final product for FSA will be significant and far-reaching.

Task Details

After submitting the draft Security and Privacy Policy on June 18th to a review group comprised of FSA system owners, system security officers, and other stakeholders throughout FSA, we incorporated the suggested revisions, making sure that any changes did not weaken the policy document as a whole. As a final check and in conjunction with the GISRA preparations, we remapped the policy document to the NIST Self-Assessment questionnaire. Any missing elements, whether due to changes to the Self-Assessment or an inadvertent deletion during the various editings, were added to the policy document in the appropriate section. As a result, FSA was able to take credit for over 95% of the Self-Assessment's policy questions. Questions regarding certification and accreditation, an area still awaiting Departmental guidance, was the primary area not covered by FSA policy.

Task Status

The Information Security and Privacy Policy document was released in final draft on July 16th. As the first comprehensive IT security policy document in the department, we expect it will draw considerable scrutiny and evaluation by both Departmental and Federal reviewers. As we continue to receive feedback, we will incorporate these changes in future revisions as required by FSA IT Security and Privacy policy.