These Standards establish minimum guidelines for the management and protection of institutional data as outlined in the University Data Stewardship Policy (http://www.montana.edu/policy/enterprise_it/data_stewardship.html).

Data Stewardship Roles and Responsibilities

DATA STEWARDS are University officials who have responsibility for data within their functional areas. Ultimate authority for stewardship of University data rests with the president, though is typically delegated to the respective steward along with the CIO and/or Legal Counsel as defined in the Policy (http://www.montana.edu/policy/enterprise_it/data_stewardship.html).

DATA USERS are individuals, including faculty, staff, administrators, and students, who use University data as part of their assigned duties or in fulfillment of their roles or functions within the University community.

DATA ADMINISTRATION is the function of applying formal guidelines and tools to manage the university's information resource. The responsibility for data administration is shared among the data stewards, data users, and information technology personnel.

COMPUTER SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION is the function of maintaining and operating hardware and software platforms (systems). Responsibility for the activities of computer system administration belongs to the Information Technology Center with delegated authority to other divisions or departments within the University.

APPLICATION ADMINISTRATION is the function of developing and maintaining applications and software. Responsibility for the activities of application administration belongs to the Information Technology Center with delegated authority to other divisions or departments within the University.
Data Classification

There are 3 classifications of University data. Data Stewards have responsibility for classifying data in their areas and applying appropriate controls as described in this document.

Confidential Data: All data which, if released in an uncontrolled fashion, could have substantial fiscal or legal impacts on the University. Examples include social security numbers, financial account numbers, driver's license numbers, health insurance policy ID numbers, protected health information (PHI), passport visa numbers, and export controlled information under U.S. laws.

Restricted Data: All data for which release or modification without authorization could have an adverse affect on the operations, assets, or reputation of the University. Examples include employee and student ID numbers (GIDs), course evaluations, financial transactions that do not include confidential data, contracts, planning documents, and student education records as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (http://www.montana.edu/policy/family_ed_privacy_act/). All files are assumed to be ‘restricted’ unless otherwise classified as ‘public’ or ‘confidential’.

Public Data: All data that is not restricted by one of the above classifications and may be released to the general public in a controlled manner, such as information designated as "Directory Information" under University policy pertaining to FERPA. Other examples include course schedules, public web pages, campus maps, policy documents, faculty publications, job opening announcements, and press releases.

Storage of payment card data is not addressed in this document. For guidance on handling of information subject to Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI-DSS), please contact the MSU University Business Office or reference the MSU Business Procedures Manual.

Storage and backups of research data are not addressed in this document. While most research data are classified as Restricted, proper data identification and storage is the responsibility of the Data User with guidance from the Data Steward, Vice-President of Research and Economic Development.

Data Storage

In all cases, it is expected that data will be stored on managed servers or approved hosted services, not desktop systems. Proper management includes compliance with the Technology Management Policy.

Storage of Confidential Data outside of Knox is prohibited. Where: “Knox” refers to the ITC-managed server knox.montana.edu.
Storage of *Restricted Data* outside of centrally managed servers or approved hosted services is prohibited unless authorized per a documented discussion with the appropriate Data Steward and the Chief Security Officer. Furthermore, servers housing *Restricted Data* will conform to the above guidelines and employ the following additional controls:

- Data will be encrypted through the use of database or file system encryption techniques whenever possible.
- Authorized users will gain access through encrypted authentication.
- Transmission of data between client and server will be encrypted whenever possible without introducing additional security risks.
- Access must be authorized by the Data Steward (or their designate).
- All data and system access will be logged and logs will be preserved for a minimum of 8 weeks.

Restricted data excluding FERPA-protected information, such as materials associated with search committees, may be stored Opal or other managed servers. Where: “Opal” refers to the ITC-managed fileserver, opal.msu.montana.edu. Please contact the Information Security Group for analysis and determination of appropriate use of such managed servers.

While *Public Data* may be stored on local desktop hard drives and removable media, this practice is not advised as it carries risk of data loss due to hardware failure.

Permissible storage solutions for each Data Classification are as follows:

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Classification</th>
<th>Hardrive or Removable Media</th>
<th>Opal (see below)</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Knox</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Data</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Data</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confidential Data</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

Where: “Box” refers to University-managed storage accounts on box.com.

As stated above, FERPA restricted information may not be stored on managed servers. Opal is approved for storage of *Restricted Data* excluding FERPA data.

Note that University-managed Box accounts may be used for storage of *Restricted Data* including education records as defined by FERPA. Use of other cloud storage solutions, such as OneDrive, have not been approved by The University for storage of FERPA restricted data.

Additionally, note that University data stored in non-MSU cloud services are subject to MSU Data Stewardship Standards. It is the responsibility of the Data User, in conjunction with the Data Steward, to ensure that proper controls and
practices are in-place.

**Data Sharing**

*Public Data* may be shared through any means including managed file services, publicly-available web servers, and University email accounts.

Sharing of *Confidential* and *Restricted Data*, when necessary, will be accomplished through the use of managed accounts on servers managed as described above. Sharing and distribution of data can be accomplished in the following ways:

- **Managed file services:** This includes locally-managed systems providing file transfer and storage services using standard technologies such as SMB, SFTP, and WebDAV. Confidential data must be encrypted in transit and at rest unless other mitigating controls are in-place and approved by The Chief Security Officer, The Director of Information Security and Privacy, or their designee.

- **Managed Web services:** This includes hosted solutions including Desire2Learn, BOX, or other University-approved systems. Web services hosting *Confidential or Restricted Data* will employ secure communications via HTTPS and encrypted authentication for authorized users. Email may not be used for the distribution or sharing of *Confidential or Restricted Data*. The Data Steward (or their delegate) will be responsible for authorizing access to all *Confidential and Restricted Data*.

**Data Reporting**

Information is typically extracted from central repositories for reporting purposes. Reporting considerations include:

- Reports should be handled in accordance with above guidelines (i.e. reports with *Confidential or Restricted information* should not be distributed via email or stored on local desktops).

- Administrative reporting should be accomplished through central Banner or Argos systems whenever possible.

- Reports should contain only the information needed to meet functional requirements. *Confidential or Restricted information* should be contained in reports only when deemed absolutely necessary and approved by the appropriate Data Steward.
Data Disposal

Prior to repurposing or recycling, all electronic information stored on any device will be properly purged. This includes internal and external hard drives and removable media. Guidelines for proper handling of surplus computing equipment are addressed in Montana Board of Regents of Higher Education Information Technology Policy 1308 – Disposal of Computer Storage Devices: http://www.mus.edu/borpol/bor1300/1308.htm

Paper reports containing Confidential or Restricted Information will be shredded prior to disposal. A cross-cut shredder is recommended.