Policy 5.20  
PCI Risk Assessment Policy

**Responsible Official:**  Enterprise CIO and Sr. Vice Provost for Library Services and Digital Scholarship

**Administering Division/Department:**  Payment Card (PCI) Policies

**Effective Date:**  April 29, 2015

**Last Revision:**  July 20, 2017

**Policy Sections:**

I. Overview  
II. Applicability  
III. Policy Details  
IV. Definitions  
V. Related Links  
VI. Revision History  

**Overview**

This policy explains Emory’s official position on how the organization formalizes a Risk Assessment as required by PCI DSS v2.0.

**Applicability**

This policy applies to all people, processes, and technology involved with the storage, processing, or transmitting of cardholder data including those that may not be directly involved in processing cardholder data but still have a potential to impact the security of the cardholder data environment (CDE).

**Policy Details**

PCI DSS control 12.2 requires all merchants to complete an annual risk-assessment process. As part of the annual Enterprise Risk Assessment process, Emory University will assess all card processing activities in order to identify threats and vulnerabilities that could negatively impact the security of cardholder data and will be documented in a formal risk assessment. The PCI Risk Assessment shall include:

- Current and Future Merchant processing activities  
- Current and Future Service Provider processing activities  
- Current and Future Acquirer processing activities  
- Results of all Merchant Self-Assessment Questionnaires (SAQ) Compliance  
- Results of all Approved Scanning Vendor (ASV) Compliance  
- Results of all Acquirer Attestations and Project Plans  
- Current and Future Transaction Volume  
- Introductions/Changes of Product Lines or Service Offerings  
- Introductions/Changes to Software Applications in the Cardholder Data Environment (CDE)
Introductions/Changes to Third Party relationships

Changes to Network Topology impacting the Cardholder Data Environment (CDE)

Any other substantial payment processes deemed appropriate for inclusion to this evaluation

The Library and Information Technology Services, Enterprise Security team uses an adaptive version of the NIST Risk Assessment framework and the documented risk assessment is a result of an annual Enterprise Risk Assessment performed by the staff. This Enterprise Risk Assessment takes into consideration other Information Technology regulatory requirements, systems, threats, and vulnerabilities outside of the scope of PCI DSS.

Sanctions:

Failure to comply with this policy may have legal consequences and may result in:

- Suspension or termination of access;
- Disciplinary actions (up to and including termination of employment) in accordance with applicable university policy.

Definitions

**Acquirer** - Also referred to as "merchant bank," "acquiring bank," or "acquiring financial institution." Entity that initiates and maintains relationships with merchants for the acceptance of payment cards.

**ASV** - Acronym for "Approved Scanning Vendor." Company approved by the PCI SSC to conduct external vulnerability scanning services.

**CDE** - Acronym for "cardholder data environment." The people, processes and technology that store, process, or transmit cardholder data or sensitive authentication data.

**Cardholder Data** - The primary account number is the defining factor for cardholder data. If cardholder name, service code, and/or expiration date are stored, processed or transmitted with the PAN, or are otherwise present in the cardholder data environment (CDE), they must be protected in accordance with applicable PCI DSS requirements. Examples include but are not limited to: account number, expiration date, card type, name, address, social security number, and Card Validation Code - a three-digit or four-digit value printed on the front or back of a payment card referred to as CAV, CVC, CVV, or CSC depending on the payment card brand. The term cardholder data is interchangeable with payment card data throughout this policy.

**Merchant** - For the purposes of the PCI DSS, a merchant is defined as any entity that accepts payment cards bearing the logos of any of the five members of PCI SSC (American Express, Discover, JCB, MasterCard or Visa) as payment for goods and/or services. Note that a merchant that accepts payment cards as payment for goods and/or services can also be a service provider, if the services sold result in storing, processing, or transmitting cardholder data on behalf of other merchants or service providers. Also, an Emory department or operating unit that has applied for and been approved to accept credit/debit card payments for goods and/or services. A merchant is assigned a specific merchant account, which is used to process all credit/debit card transactions via an Emory-approved payment card processor.

**PCI DSS** - Acronym for “Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards” The data security standards established to govern the security of payment card data. The current version of the standards are available at [https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/](https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/)

**Risk Assessment** - Process that identifies valuable system resources and threats; quantifies loss exposures (that is, loss potential) based on estimated frequencies and costs of occurrence; and (optionally) recommends how to allocate resources to countermeasures so as to minimize total exposure.

**SAQ** - Acronym for “Self-Assessment Questionnaire.” Reporting tool used to document self-assessment results from an entity’s PCI DSS assessment.

**Service Provider** - Business entity that is not a payment brand, directly involved in the processing, storage, or transmission of cardholder data on behalf of another entity. This also includes companies that provide services that control or could impact the security of cardholder data.

Related Links

- Current Version of This Policy: [http://policies.emory.edu/5.20](http://policies.emory.edu/5.20)
Payment Card Information Security Policy (https://policies.emory.edu/5.19)
Enterprise Information Security Incident Response Policy (https://policies.emory.edu/5.17)
Cardholder Data Environment Remote Access Policy (https://policies.emory.edu/5.18)
Payment Card Processing and Compliance Policy (https://policies.emory.edu/2.2)
Retention and Disposal (http://records.emory.edu/retention-schedules/index.html)
PCI Security Standards Council (https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org)

Revision History

- Version Published on: May 15, 2015 (Updated sanctions language and definitions. Other minor updates.)
- Version Published on: May 15, 2015 (Original Publication)

Emory University policies are subject to change at any time. If you are reading this policy in paper or PDF format, you are strongly encouraged to visit policies.emory.edu to ensure that you are relying on the current version.