



IT Security

Policy Number: 7000

I. Purpose

The Summit Academy Board of Trustees has established general guidelines and standards for Data Security.

II. Policy

The purpose of the Data Security Policy is to safeguard critical information for the security of the school and its faculty, staff, and students.

No member of Summit Academy is permitted to electronically store or maintain credit card or debit card numbers, expiration dates, and/or security codes in any way relating to school-sponsored activities. Information Technology Services (ITS) must approve the use of any system or application that electronically processes, stores, or transmits credit card data.

Paper documents containing credit card data should be secured in a locked office and stored in a cabinet. In an open office environment paper documents should be stored in locked cabinets. Paper documents should not be left in an unsecured office after work hours.

All credit card processing (e.g., online, phone, mail, over-the-counter, card-swiping) must be reviewed and approved by ITS.

The following Confidential data types can only be electronically stored on an ITS managed server and can only be accessed from an ITS managed computer.

1. Social Security number
2. Driver's license number
3. State/Federal ID card number
4. Passport number
5. Financial account numbers (checking, savings, brokerage, CD...)

In the event that an exception is necessary in order to carry out the business of the school, the user must get written approval from the School Director as well as the ITS Director.

It is recommended that all other confidential data and restricted data types be electronically stored or accessed from one of the following list of devices, in order of preference: ITS managed server, ITS managed desktop computer, encrypted laptop, encrypted mobile storage device. Any encrypted device must be encrypted using a process documented and approved by ITS and the administrator of such system must report to the Information Security Officer on system security related matters.



When handling physical documents containing any Confidential and/or Restricted data types, the documents must be in your possession at all times; otherwise, they should be stored in a secure location (e.g. room, file cabinet, etc.) to which only specifically-approved individuals have access through lock and key. When the information is no longer needed, the physical documents must be shredded using a school-approved device prior to being discarded; or destroyed by a school-approved facility.

Confidential data and restricted data should not be taken or stored off-campus unless the user is specifically authorized to do so by the school director and notification of the authorization is sent to the ITS director.

Summit Academy reserves the right to electronically scan all school-owned resources and resources connected to the school network for confidential data. In the event that confidential data is found in unauthorized locations, the ITS Director will follow-up with the School Director to remedy the situation.

Confidential data cannot be transmitted through any electronic messaging (i.e. email, instant messaging, text messaging) even to other authorized users. Confidential data in a physical format cannot be transmitted through untracked delivery methods. School mail and regular postal services are not tracked using delivery methods.

All faculty, staff, and student account passwords must be complex. A complex password is defined as follows:

1. At least ten characters long
2. Cannot contain three or more characters from the user's account name
3. Must contain 3 of the following categories
 - a. Uppercase English letter (A to Z)
 - b. Lowercase English letter (a to z) o Number 0 to 9
 - c. Non-alphanumeric character (!, #, \$, & , =, etc...)
 - d. Unicode characters

Users who are authorized to access or maintain confidential data or restricted data must ensure that it is protected to the extent required by school policy or law after they obtain it.

All data users are expected to:

1. Access data only in their conduct of school business.
2. Request only the minimum confidential data or restricted data necessary to perform their school business.
3. Respect the confidentiality and privacy of individuals whose records they may access.
4. Observe any ethical restrictions that apply to data to which they have access.
5. Know and abide by applicable laws or policies with respect to access, use, or disclosure of data.



Compliance with these data protection policies is the responsibility of all members of the Summit Academy community. Violations of these policies will be dealt with seriously and will include sanctions, up to and including termination of employment. Users suspected of violating these policies may be temporarily denied access to the data as well as information technology resources during investigation of an alleged abuse. Violations may also be subject to prosecution by state and federal authorities. Suspected violations of Summit Academy's data protection policies must be reported to the School Director.

III. References

N/A

IV. Attachments

N/A

V. Revision History and Approval

Version 1: July 2017: Original Date of Approval

Version 2: April 14, 2022: Update to required characters in passwords