	Policy Main Title	Information Technology	Effective Date	30/5/2021
	Policy Subject	Web hosting policy	Last Review date	19/5/2021
	Policy Number	IT-33	Next Review date	19/5/2022
	Responsible Entity	IT Center	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Overview

The ITC of the University of Sharjah seek to provide up to date, accurate and meaningful information is available on university-related websites.

The university's integrity and reputation rely on consistent and strong reliable content on the UoS domain and on any websites that relate to, refer to, or could be perceived as representing the university. It is therefore key that all such websites conform to minimum university standards to ensure the authenticity of the hosted content.

Scope


This policy shall be applicable to all web applications / web servers belonging to the University of Sharjah.

Purpose

The purpose of the Policy is to establish the standards and best practices of web hosting and to define guidelines on the controls for internally or externally hosted University of Sharjah's applications and Web Services.

Policy

1. The University of Sharjah ITC shall be responsible for the administration of UoS World-Wide Web services.
2. UoS web services shall be physically secured and appropriately configured to provide:-
 - A. Access level security
 - B. Secure hardening of operating systems and web application
 - C. Load balancing and high availability
 - D. Secure network architecture (Perimeter security control, Intrusion Prevention System, Content and Spam protection.)
 - E. Associated application and database security controls
 - F. Highest level of security by conducting penetration testing
3. Web services that is placed on University of Sharjah Web servers shall be approved by the designated UoS ITC
4. Proprietary material obtained via the internet shall not be used by the university without copyright clearance. Clearance can be obtained from the author or copyright owner.
5. Changes to the web application services shall be done using ITC Change Management process.

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6. Changes to the web content shall follow the relevant approvals process
7. Web application environment shall have an appropriate testing facilities.
8. The web application shall be configured not to store any user credentials or sensitive information such as credit card information, passport numbers etc.
9. The user input data shall be validated by the front end web application itself without sending queries back to the database server.
10. External Users shall not be permitted to upload any file on the web application unless authorized. Such files shall be subjected to virus scan before the uploading.
11. The web server shall be configured to not reveal classified information, error or debugging information to any user.
12. The classified information shall be encrypted (such as SSL or HTTPS or database encryption mechanism).
13. Information / services online transactions shall be protected to prevent from frauds.

Policy Compliance

Compliance Measurement

The ITC will verify compliance to this policy through various methods, including but not limited to, periodic walk-throughs, log monitoring, tool reports, internal and external audits, and feedback to the ITC.

Exceptions

Any exception to the policy must be approved by the ITC in advance.

Reference

SI No	Standard Name	Control Reference
1	ISO 27001:2013	A.14.1.3

Abbreviations and Definitions

NA