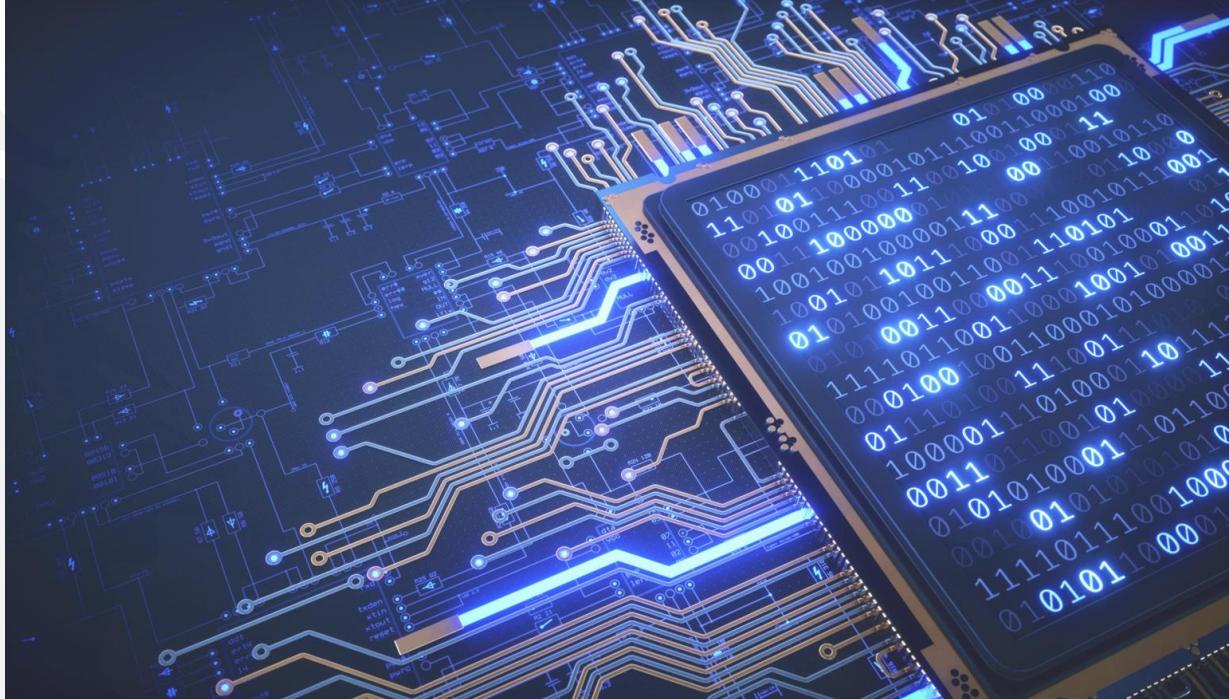


# Hudson County Community College Cybersecurity Update

- Introductions
- What and Why?
- Concepts and Strategies
- Activities and Reviews
- Security Awareness, Training, and Planning
- GLBA Compliance
- Future Roadmap



# Why? Recent Cybersecurity Incidents

**Personal, financial data of NJCU students, staff leaked on dark web as \$700K ransom goes unpaid**

Updated: Aug. 08, 2024, 8:55 a.m. | Published: Aug. 07, 2024, 5:47 p.m.

The university alerted staff and students of the June 4-10 data breach Friday, some seven weeks after the hack that resulted in the theft of social security numbers, driver's license numbers, financial account numbers, and credit card numbers.

Only some of the recent attacks that made their way to the media

2024 EDUCAUSE Top 10 listed  
**"Cybersecurity as a Core Competency"**  
as the #1 factor in the drive to develop  
institutional resilience.

New Jersey institutions are still  
recovering from attacks months ago.

A staggering 79% of schools reported  
facing attacks and 56% paying a  
ransom to get their data back.

2023 was the **worst ransomware year**  
on record for the education sector.

A 105% increase in known ransomware  
attacks against K-12 and higher  
education

- Attacks were up 70%  
(68 vs 116 in 2023)
- Based only on incidents in which a  
ransom was not paid, the actual  
number of attacks was probably  
significantly higher

**| Average of 277 Days**  
Time to Breach Detection

**| Approximately 84%**  
of all events are caused by humans

**| Nearly 90%**  
of ransomware attacks are preventable

*"The biggest risk to higher ed continues to be reputational damage from data breaches, especially for tuition-based schools. Enrollment competition is so significant that a data breach or loss of student data could tip the scales for a small- to medium-sized institution. Also, many small- to medium-sized schools are being attacked with business email compromise. This can result in financial losses that are a real problem."*

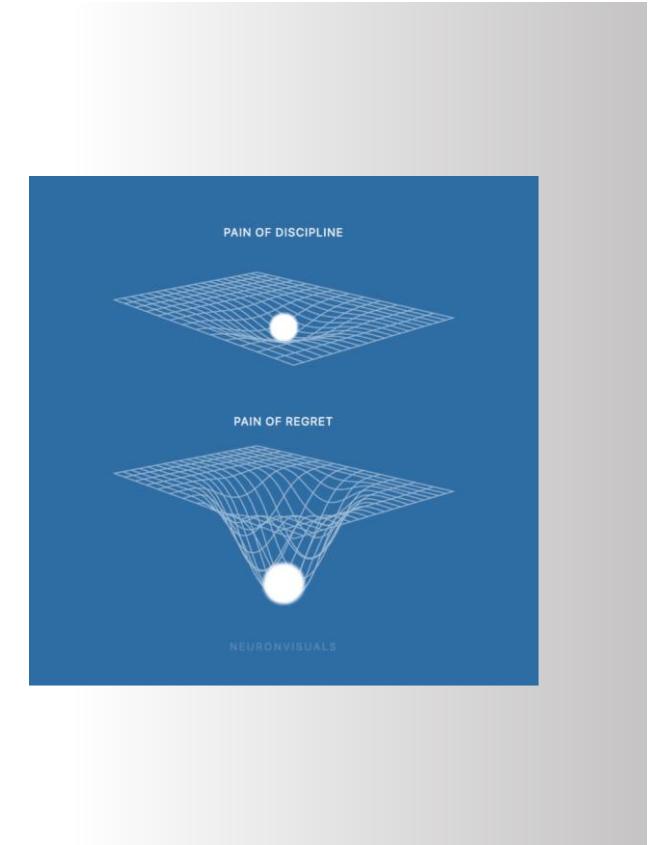
*"Schools need to make investments in security tools and the people to manage them..... the security landscape is too complex for many small institutions to manage. The current threat landscape requires tools to monitor and report threats, and protocols need to be in place to respond. Without these, it is only a matter of time before real damage is done."*

*Jason Nairn VP of Information Technology and Security  
Collegis Education*

# Cybersecurity is a Journey, NOT a Destination

No one can reach a 100% cybersecurity level because of four factors:

1. Risk changes constantly
2. Cybercriminals and their tools are continuously getting more sophisticated and better financed
3. Human error is always in play
4. Technology constantly evolves



# Overall Approach



## Enterprise Security

Improve HCC's Cybersecurity and Incident Response capabilities, data security, cloud security, and Identity and Access Management (IAM). Continue:

- Internal vulnerability management
- Security awareness training and phishing campaigns
- Computer and server assessment
- Defensive measures via PC and firewall/cloud security controls
- External and web penetration testing
- Dark web scanning



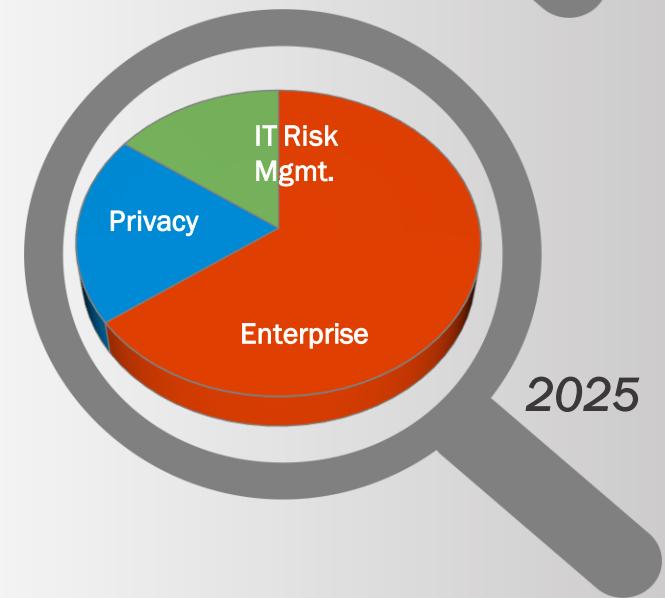
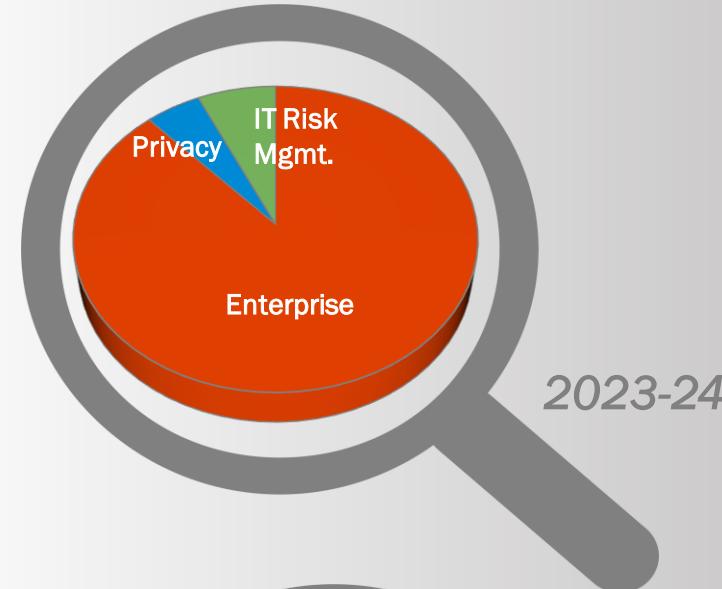
## Privacy

Privacy is increasingly regulated and contractual compliance with a focus on federal and State regulations. A solid privacy program is a must for any Higher Education in the U.S. receiving federal or state funding.



## IT Risk Management

Risk reduction via Information Technology begins with complete asset management; moves into continued integration of governance, risk, and compliance controls and processes, and requires continuous assessment. IT risk management aims to use security measures and enterprise technology capabilities to prevent or reduce financial or reputational loss to HCCC.



# Security Program Activities

All Policies and Plans required by Federal and Privacy regulations

Continued Risk Assessment

Dark Web Analysis

Email Security and Review

External Pen Testing

Governance, Risk, and Compliance System

Incident Responders – 24X7

Internal Vulnerability Scanning

Phishing Campaigns

Privacy Program – All Policies and plans

Security Awareness and Training

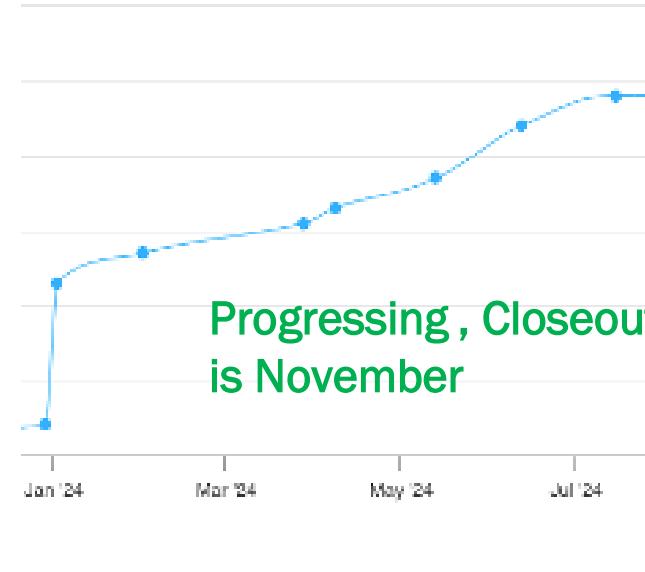
Security Reviews

Vendor Security

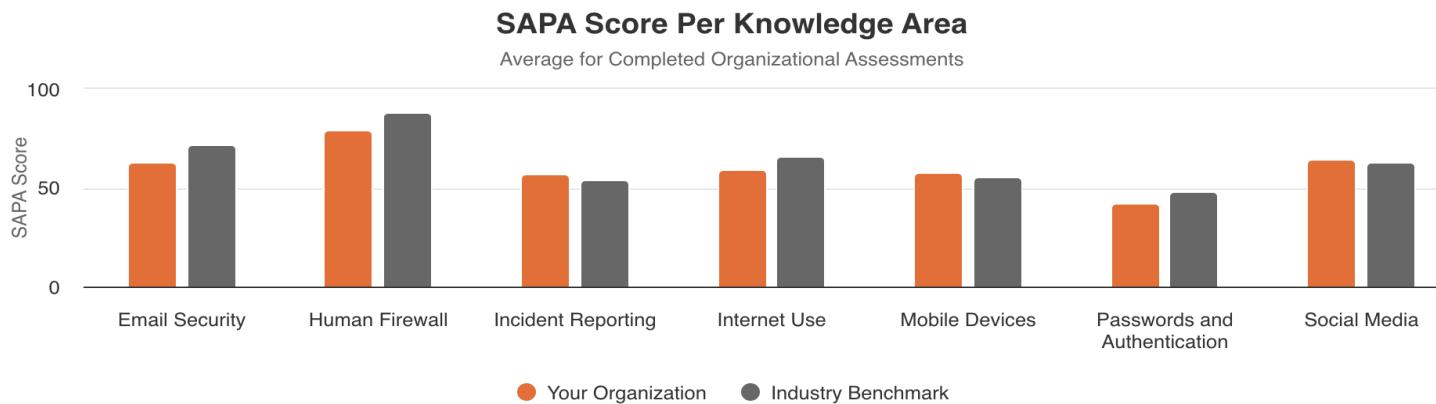
Vulnerability and Systems Security Team



# Security Awareness



## Security Awareness Proficiency Assessment (SAPA)



On Par with Education Industry

Reminder:  
**Approximately 84%**  
of all events are caused by humans  
  
**Nearly 90%**  
of ransomware attacks are  
preventable



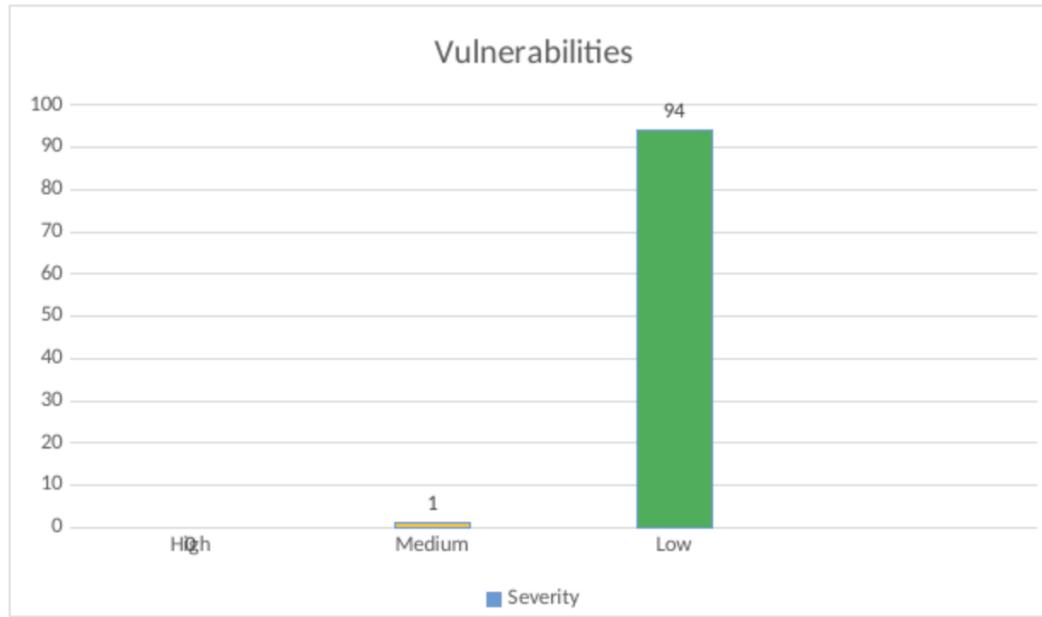
# Risk Assessment and Reaction



THOROUGH ANNUAL PENTESTING CONDUCTED



THOROUGH ANNUAL INTERNAL SCANNING IS IN PROGRESS



THOROUGH ANNUAL ACTIVE DIRECTORY AUDIT CONDUCTED

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.5458]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\administrator.HUDSON>netdom query fsmo
Schema master          ndc7.hccc.edu
Domain naming master    ndc7.hccc.edu
PDC                   ndc6.hccc.edu
RID pool manager        ndc6.hccc.edu
Infrastructure master   ndcb.hccc.edu
The command completed successfully.

C:\Users\administrator.HUDSON>
```

## Recommended Changes Made:

- Create a LAPS policy - This helps set a unique complex password for the local administrator account in all domain-joined devices.
- The maximum password complexity has been increased, and password age reduced, per security best practices.

# Policy and Plans

Professionally reviewed, produced, and updated policies are essential to any security and privacy program and a required part of any higher education institution. CyberSecOp continuously reviews and assists us to create essential HCCC policies.

## Some benefits of having proper policies and plans in place:

- Ensuring the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of data.
- Helping to ensure vulnerabilities are remediated quickly.
- Ensuring the proper responsibilities, resources, plans, and programs are in place for cybersecurity.
- Preventing inappropriate, insecure, and unauthorized access and use of HCCC resources.
- Helping to reduce successful phishing attempts.
- Ensuring network, systems, and application changes are secure and do not cause problems.
- Ensuring data is secure and protected at rest, in transit, and in use.
- Ensuring a proper and rapid response to incidents.

*100% Improvement  
of Goal*



## Current Proposed Policies

- ✓ CYBERSECURITY POLICY
- ✓ VENDOR MANAGEMENT POLICY
-  ACCESS AND AUTHORIZATION POLICY
- ✓ DEVICE MANAGEMENT POLICY
- ✓ RISK ASSESSMENT POLICY
-  BUSINESS IMPACT ANALYSIS
- ✓ DATA CLASSIFICATION AND PRIVACY
- ✓ VULNERABILITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
- ✓ SECURITY AWARENESS AND TRAINING POLICY

# Mature Incident Response Readiness

The main goal of HCCC's Incident Management is to manage actual or perceived incidents in a structured manner.

- Restore standard operational service as quickly and efficiently as possible
- Minimizing the adverse impact on business operations
- Responsibilities and the first point of contact may differ and will be determined by the nature of the incident and potential breach.

Severity	Explanation
Severity 1 - Critical	A Severity 1 Incident has a critical impact on HCCC's day-to-day functions, including but not limited to loss of access/control of data and functionality of multiple System/Network infrastructure components. This Severity of incident would have a broad impact, with considerable resources to identify/remediate.

Severity	Explanation
Severity 2 - Moderate	A Severity 2 Incident would be an event/incident impacting a limited group/user or network/system infrastructure. Generally, it is an immediately identifiable/remediated event. Loss/theft of a device containing Hudson CCC content should be considered a Severity 2

Severity	Explanation
Severity 3 - Isolated	A Severity 3 Incident would be considered an incident impacting a single individual or event limited to an isolated instance.

## Incident Response Plan, Program, & Process Managed by Security Professionals



Urgency	Description
High	Process stopped; organization(s) cannot work
Medium	Process affected; organization(s) cannot use certain functions
Low	Process not affected; change request, new/extr/optimised function

*100% Improvement of Goal*



## INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN

### Now Covering:

- ✓ INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN REVIEW
- ✓ INCIDENT MANAGEMENT PROCESS
- ✓ ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
- ✓ COMMUNICATION FRAMEWORK
- ✓ MONITORING NETWORK/SYSTEMS
- ✓ REMEDIATION AND RECOVERY
- ✓ INCIDENT CLASSIFICATION



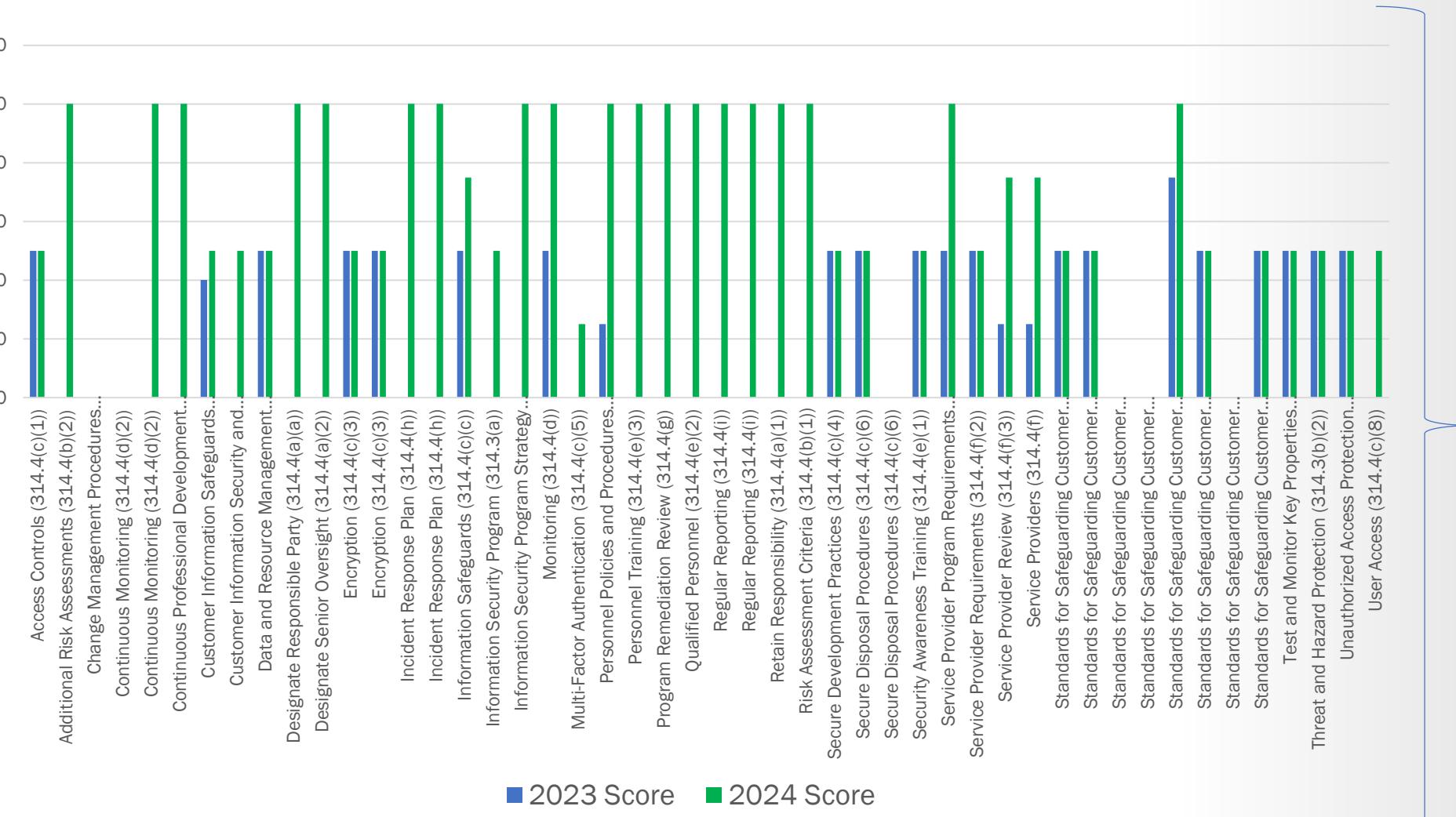
## Impacts of GLBA Safeguards Rule

The Gramm-Leach Bliley Act (GLBA), enacted in 1999, is a regulation under the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) that requires financial institutions to be transparent about information-sharing practices and to safeguard sensitive information. While GLBA has been around for years, it has impacted colleges and universities more recently within the last couple of years.

**GLBA applies to higher education institutions specifically to collect, store, and use student financial records containing personally identifiable information.**

The GLBA Safeguards Rule requires HCCC to have measures to keep customer (**student**) information secure, including with affiliates and service providers.

## 2023 - 2024 Security Program Progress



*Constant Improvement*



*Drastic Improvement*



■ 2023 Score ■ 2024 Score

# 2024-2025 Focus Areas on the Roadmap

## INTERNAL VULNERABILITY SCANS

Identifying vulnerabilities and ensuring proper patching

## DATA SECURITY

Ensure Data mapping, Data classification, and Data security

## PRIVACY

Building a mature Privacy program inclusive of regulatory compliance

## INCIDENT RESPONSE

Reacting and responding to security threats monitoring for malicious anomalies

## EXTERNAL PEN-TESTING

Scanning external and web systems for potential weaknesses and vulnerabilities, followed by remediating activity

## IT RISK MANAGEMENT

Governance, Policy, and Compliance

## CYBER DEFENSE

Proactively defending the organization at all layers

## SECURITY ASSESSMENT

Vendor security, Endpoint assessment, server assessments, and continuous capability assessment

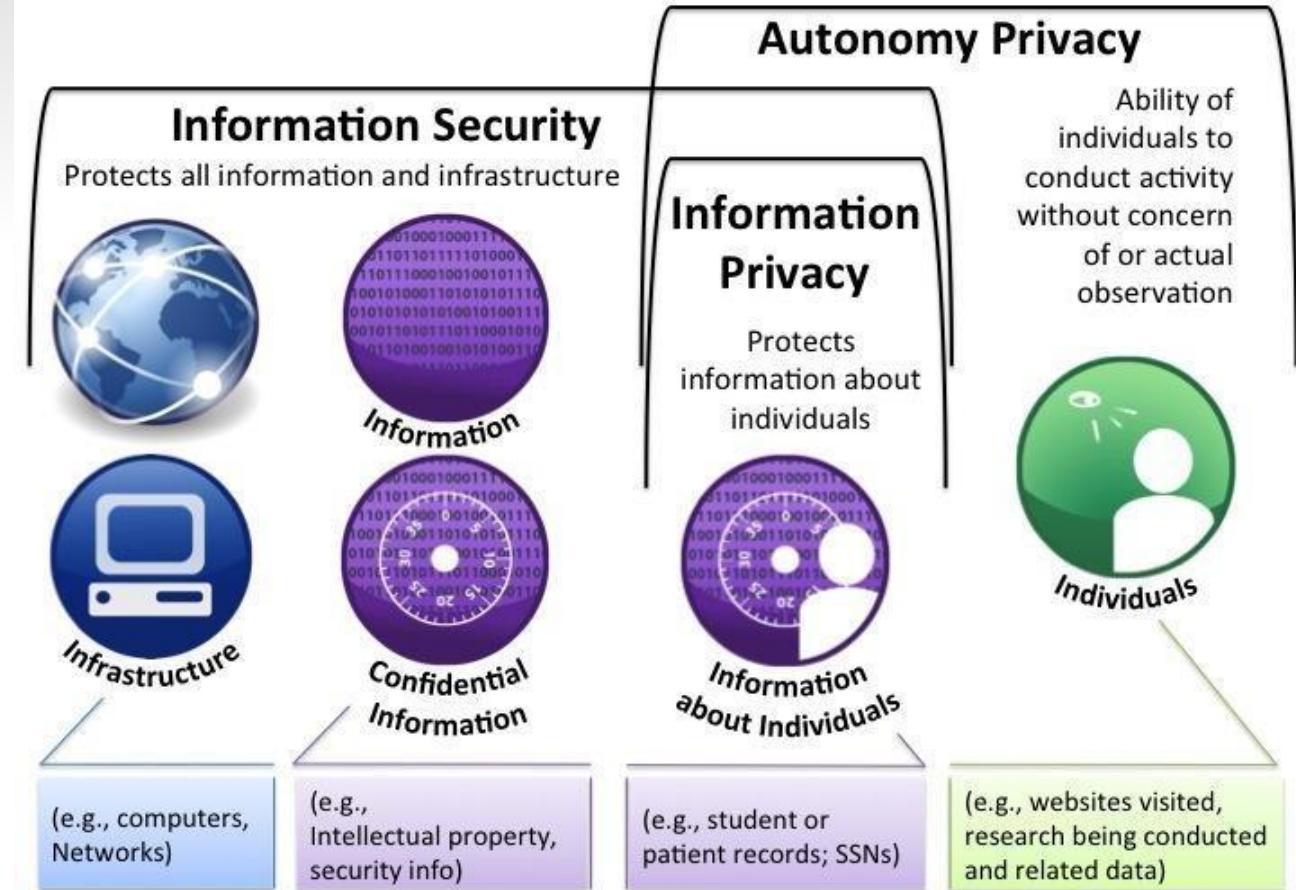


# 2024-2025 Security Roadmap - Privacy

Defining institutional balance, often facilitating conversations around privacy's importance for students, faculty, staff and the institution.

To protect privacy, institutions should develop their own approach within the bounds of the law. Key considerations include:

- Fostering an environment for free inquiry
- Vigilance against cyber threats
- Individuals' data control
- Collaborative data governance



# 2024-2025 Security Roadmap – Vendor Risk Management

Evaluate our vendors' cybersecurity and compliance practices as they can directly impact HCCC's security, minimizing HCCC's exposure to preventable risks while performing due diligence on each critical and high-risk vendor.

## Vendor Portfolio

Unify all vendors to our portfolio for ease of use.

## Vendor Ratings

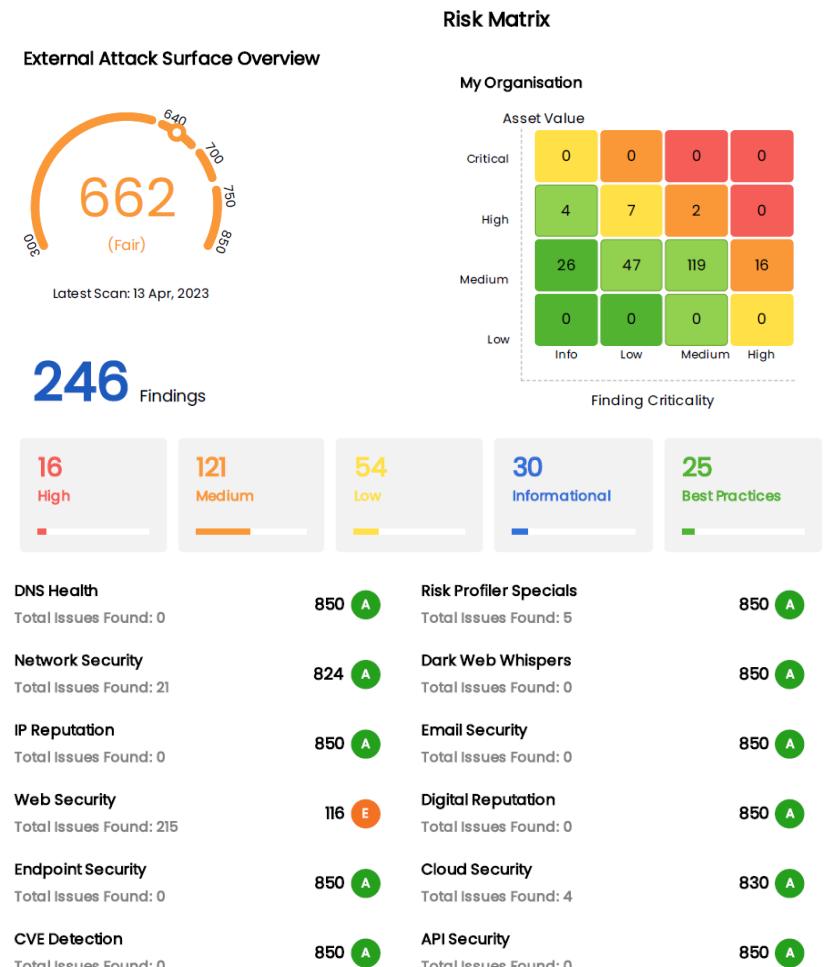
Enables in-depth vendor ratings in near real-time.

## Compliance

Includes mappings to most industry compliance standards including GLBA, NIST, SOC, ISO

## Remediation

Mitigate risks by automating risk notifications.



# A Different View of Current and Planned activity

Previously In Place  
Currently in focus  
In Focus next year





# Thank you!

**Trisha Clay**

Associate Vice President for ITS and  
Chief Information Officer

[pclay@hccc.edu](mailto:pclay@hccc.edu)

201-360-4351

<https://www.hccc.edu/administration/its/index.html>