

*UCOP*  
*ITS*  
*Systemwide CISO Office*  
*Systemwide IT Policy*

UC Event Logging Standard

**Revision History**

Date:	By:	Contact Information:	Description:
05/02/18	Robert Smith	robert.smith@ucop.edu	Approved by the CISOs for consideration by ITLC and shared governance. Interim until approved by ITLC.
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Approval Candidate

## 1 Background and Purpose

Logging is an essential information security control that is used to identify, respond to and prevent operational problems, security incidents, policy violations and fraudulent activity. Logging facilitates the optimization of system and application performance and assists in business recovery activities. In many cases, logging is required in order to comply with federal, state and local laws and regulations.

Logging also provides system administrators, supervisors and compliance officers with information useful for diagnostics and auditing.

This Standard details the requirements for event logging to support information security and also addresses some operational needs to support availability.

## 2 Scope

This Standard applies to all Locations.

This Standard applies to all IT Resources used by anyone conducting business by, for or on behalf of the University of California for administrative and academic purposes when:

- The IT Resource is processing, storing or transmitting Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 3 or above, not including single user devices.
- The IT Resource is classified at Availability Level 3 or above.
- Complying with contracts or grants that set forth security and/or operational concerns addressed by logging.
- Complying with regulatory requirements.
- The UISL, CISO or CIO identifies a specific need to collect logs for security or operational concerns.

### 2.1 Scope exclusions

Unless included above, the following devices are beyond the scope of this Standard:

- Personal or non-UC devices not managed by UC.
- Research computing; academic experiments; or student projects not involving Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 3 or higher.
- IT Resources excluded by the CISO and CIO.

## 3 Definitions

There are no specially defined terms required for using this Standard.

For more information about terms, consult the [IT Policy Glossary](#).

## 4 Requirements

The CISO and CIO identify security and operational concerns to establish event-logging requirements (see Scope management above).

Unit Information Security Leads (UISLs) and IT Workforce Members must ensure the implementation of the requirements detailed in this section.

### 4.1 Plan and inventory

UISLs must establish a logging plan. The plan must include:

- A method to inventory systems that are required to log events for information security purposes.
- Steps to manage cyber risk by assessing risk levels and resources for logging.
- The level of logging detail.
- Log storage.
- Log access.
- Centralized logging and log forwarding to Service Providers and Suppliers.
- Log monitoring.
- Time synchronization.
- A testing plan and interval.
- Gaps and mitigations.

Units processing, storing or transmitting Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 3 or higher must submit and review their plan with the CISO at least annually.

#### 4.2 Log details

When managing cyber risk within their areas of responsibility, Centralized IT Units, Service Providers, Units and IT Resource Proprietors or other designated individuals have some flexibility in determining the type and amount of detail contained in the logs of IT Resources and systems in order to achieve the desired outcome. The following requirements, however, do apply:

- For privacy, confidentiality and integrity concerns, the amount and type of information logged should be commensurate with the Protection Level of the Institutional Information and/or IT Resource (e.g., systems that process Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 3 or 4 will appropriately capture more log detail than those that process less sensitive data).
- For availability concerns, the amount and type of information logged should be commensurate with the Availability Level of the Institutional Information and IT Resource (e.g., event logs for IT Resources classified at Availability Level 3 or 4 will appropriately capture more log detail than those of IT Resources processing less sensitive information).

See Appendix A.

#### 4.3 Event sources

IT Workforce Members must include event sources that are needed to manage cyber security risk in the Unit's logging implementation. Event sources include, but are not limited to:

- Access control systems/physical security.
- Application appliances.
- Cloud services (e.g., IaaS, SaaS, PaaS).
- Computer controlled instruments.
- Databases.
- End points.
- Industrial control systems.
- Internet of Things devices (IoT)
- Medical devices.
- Network devices.
- Printers, scanners and multifunction devices.

- Security and other network-attached appliances.
- Security devices or systems.
- Server/OS.
- Systems (Applications).

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**Note:** For HIPAA and requirements like those found in the PCI DSS (credit cards), Gramm–Leach–Bliley Act (GLBA – impacts student loans and other financial transactions) and NIST 800-171 (supporting financial aid and some research contracts), application logs will also need to identify who accesses and who changes records.

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#### 4.4 **Segregated log storage and tamper protection**

A copy of log data must be stored on a separate logical device that is protected from unauthorized access with at least the same control set as the source IT Resource. This is required for all:

- IT Resources handling Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 3 or higher.
- IT Resources handling Institutional Information classified at Availability Level 3 or higher.
- Critical IT Infrastructure.

Logging facilities and log information must be protected against tampering, modification, destruction and unauthorized access.

#### 4.5 **Time synchronization**

Each Location must establish methods for time synchronization of logging and monitoring activities using Network Time Protocol (NTP), Precision Time Protocol (PTP) or following the Location-approved time synchronization method.

The clocks of IT Resources within a Unit or security domain must be synchronized to a standard reference time source.

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**Note:** Refer to UC Time Synchronization standard, [EAA-066](#).

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#### 4.6 **Timestamp format**

Timestamps must not be truncated or abbreviated in any way and must:

- Follow the Location-approved time recording method or use a time zone offset that corresponds to local time.
- Be formatted in accordance with ISO 8601:2004 and RFC 3339.

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**Note:** Units should use the UC Time Synchronization standard, [EAA-066](#).

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#### 4.7 **Log management framework**

For Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 3 or higher, event logging must use CISO-approved logging tools and framework(s).

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**Note:** Example frameworks and tools include, but are not limited to:

- Splunk.
  - Arcsight.
  - ELK.
  - syslog.
  - CLF/ELF for web servers.
  - Windows event log.
  - SNMP (Network).
  - log4j and log4net (applications).
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#### 4.8 Handling sensitive information in logs

Log management procedures require appropriate handling of sensitive information. IT Workforce Members must apply these controls:

- Logs containing Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 3 or higher must require the same security controls as the Institutional Information they contain.
- Logs must be only available on a need-to-know basis and they must follow Location access procedures.<sup>1</sup>
- All transmissions of logs must require secure protocols and reliable mechanisms.
- Location-specific change management processes must be applied when erasing, purging or trimming event logs outside of the Location's standard procedure.

IT Workforce Members must not log the following information:

- Social Security Numbers (SSN).
- Unencrypted personal information (e.g., personal account numbers, financial account numbers, credit card numbers, etc.).
- Clear text authentication credentials (e.g., passphrases, passwords, secret questions).
- Other Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 3 or higher.

#### 4.9 Requiring the use of a SIEM

As required and scoped by the CISO, Units must configure IT Resources processing, storing or transmitting Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 3 or higher to provide log data to a Security Incident and Event Management system (SIEM).

#### 4.10 Logging privileged user actions

For Institutional Information classified at Protection Level 2 or higher and IT Resources classified at Availability Level 3 or higher, actions performed by privileged user accounts in performance of their duties must be logged and reviewed by a peer (e.g., other admin, InfoSec professional, etc.) based on risk in order to determine the appropriateness of the actions performed.

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<sup>1</sup> See also the Electronic Communications Policy, <http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/7000470/ElectronicCommunications>, for important information needed to plan the administration, technical and operational implementation of logging and access to log information.

#### 4.11 Limiting administrator access to logs

When possible, IT Workforce Members acting as system administrators on IT Resources classified at Protection Level 3 or higher and Availability Level 3 or higher must not have permission to erase, deactivate or modify logs of their own activities.

#### 4.12 Log retention

IT Workforce Members must retain logs based on:

- UC Records Retention Schedule.
- Contractual obligations.
- Litigation holds, preservation orders.
- Applicable regulatory requirements.
- Other retention requirements prescribed.

### 5 References

OWASP Logging Cheat Sheet: [https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Logging\\_Cheat\\_Sheet](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Logging_Cheat_Sheet)

Guide to Computer Security Log Management, NIST SP 800-92:

<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-92.pdf>

Appendix A Glossary - Guide to Computer Security Log Management, NIST SP 800-92:

<http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-92.pdf>

### 6 Standards

[UC Institutional Information and IT Resource Classification Standard](#)

EA/ITAG UC Time Synchronization Standard, [EAA-066](#)

ISO 27002 Section 12.4 “Logging and monitoring”

ISO 27002 Section 13.1.1.d “Logging and monitoring should be applied to enable recording and detection of actions that may affect, or are relevant to, information security”

### 7 UC Policy

IS-3, III Section 12.4 - Logging and monitoring

Electronic Communications Policy:

<http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/7000470/ElectronicCommunications>

## 8 Appendix A – Logged Events Examples

IT Resource logging configurations (e.g., which entries and data fields are sent to the centralized log servers, what log format should be used) must be established to manage operational and security risks.

The Workforce Member's ability to configure each log source is dependent on the features offered by that particular type of log source. For example, some log sources offer very granular configuration options, while some offer no granularity at all—logging is simply enabled or disabled, with no control over what is logged.

When planning what details to log, UISLs, CIOs and CISOs should consider:

- The classification of Institutional Information and/or the IT Resource(s).
- The Location's past experiences of IT Resource vulnerability, exploitation and/or misuse.
- The extent of system interconnectedness.
- The primary purpose of logging for the IT Resource (e.g., operational, security, or both).
- The effects on system performance.
- The costs of logging and reviewing log data vs. security and operational risks.

Logged events might include, but are not limited to:

- Access and access attempts to root, administrator or other privileged credentials.
- Access to audit logs.
- Account activation (enabled).
- Account creation.
- Account de-activation.
- Account lockouts.
- Account login with explicit credentials.
  - Activation and deactivation of protection systems (e.g., anti-virus, intrusion detection, encryption and file integrity systems).
  - Alarms raised by IT Resources (e.g., console alerts or messages, system log exceptions, network management alarms, alarms raised by access control systems).
- Application error.
- Application hang.
- Application/server reboot.
- Authentication failure and login failures.
- Authentication success and login success.
- Boot events.
- Changes to IT Resource(s) or system configuration.
- cron events.
- Domain Controller Authentication Events.
- Event log change.
- Event log cleared.
- Failed logon attempts.
- Firewall and security tool rule changes (add, delete, modify, suspend, etc.).
- Group membership changes (created, changed, deleted).



- Group or other system policy failed to load.
- Kernel events.
- Locked out.
- Login types.
- Modifications to privileged groups.
- Name change.
- Other authentication or account management events, which can include, but are not limited to:
  - Kerberos authentication ticket (TGT) requests.
  - Kerberos pre-authentication failures.
  - Kerberos authentication ticket request failures.
  - Kerberos events.
  - Kerberos failure codes.
- Password change (by privileged user).
- Password change (by user).
- Privilege change.
- proxy events.
- Remote desktop sessions (connect, reconnect, disconnect).
- Screensaver events.
- Security tool detection events.
- Service starts and stops.
- Successful logons.
- System or application audit or logging policy change.
- Termination of database related processes.
- The addition of a user to a privileged group.
- The creation of a new privileged user account.
- Unlocked.
- User initiated log-off.
- Workstation locked events.

For each logged security event, including the ones above, the following must be recorded, as appropriate:

- User identification.
- Type of event.
- Date and time.
- Success or failure indication.
- Data accessed.
- Application, program or utility used.
- Origination of event (e.g., network address).
- Target of event (e.g., network address, host name).
- Protocol.
- Identity or name of affected data, information system or network resource.

Open source workstation logging baseline projects (review required before use):

- SwiftOnSecurity/sysmon-config:
  - <https://github.com/SwiftOnSecurity/sysmon-config>
- ion-storm/sysmon-config, base on SwiftOnSecurity:
  - <https://github.com/ion-storm/sysmon-config>

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**Note:** The list above provides examples and is not exhaustive. Operating systems, applications, run-time environments (or run-time containers), security tools and devices vary in their logging capabilities and event detail. IT Workforce Members should use best practice guides and tools from SIEM vendors and other sources to tune what is logged locally and what is forwarded to centralized tools. This is important for detection, response and recovery from adverse incidents. This approach is necessary for both security and operational events.

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