



Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPs)

Rooted in a 1973 Federal Government report from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare Advisory Committee, “Records, Computers and the Rights of Citizens,” the Fair Information Practice principles (FIPPs) have informed Federal statute and the laws of many U.S. states and foreign nations, and have been incorporated in the policies of many organizations around the world. They are critical to how the government approaches information management, especially information about people. While the precise expression of the FIPPs has varied over time and in different contexts, they have always retained a consistent set of core principles that are broadly relevant to agencies’ information management practices. To learn more, watch the Federal Privacy Council’s [FIPPs video](#).



6 minutes 52 seconds

Fair Information Practice Principles

Learn about the Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPs), which serve as the foundation for privacy laws and policies applicable to Federal agencies.

The Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPs)

The FIPPs are a collection of widely accepted principles that agencies use when evaluating information systems, processes, programs, and activities that affect individual privacy. The FIPPs are not requirements; rather, they are principles that should be applied by each agency according to the agency's particular mission and privacy program requirements. They are as follows:



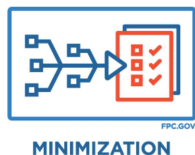
Access and Amendment. Agencies should provide individuals with appropriate access to PII and appropriate opportunity to correct or amend PII.



Accountability. Agencies should be accountable for complying with these principles and applicable privacy requirements, and should appropriately monitor, audit, and document compliance. Agencies should also clearly define the roles and responsibilities with respect to PII for all employees and contractors, and should provide appropriate training to all employees and contractors who have access to PII.



Authority. Agencies should only create, collect, use, process, store, maintain, disseminate, or disclose PII if they have authority to do so, and should identify this authority in the appropriate notice.



Minimization. Agencies should only create, collect, use, process, store, maintain, disseminate, or disclose PII that is directly relevant and necessary to accomplish a legally authorized purpose, and should only maintain PII for as long as is necessary to accomplish the purpose.



Quality and Integrity. Agencies should create, collect, use, process, store, maintain, disseminate, or disclose PII with such accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and completeness as is reasonably necessary to ensure fairness to the individual.



Individual Participation. Agencies should involve the individual in the process of using PII and, to the extent practicable, seek individual consent for the creation, collection, use, processing, storage, maintenance, dissemination, or disclosure of PII. Agencies should also establish procedures to receive and address individuals' privacy-related complaints and inquiries.



Purpose Specification and Use Limitation. Agencies should provide notice of the specific purpose for which PII is collected and should only use, process, store, maintain, disseminate, or disclose PII for a purpose that is explained in the notice and is compatible with the purpose for which the PII was collected, or that is otherwise legally authorized.



Security. Agencies should establish administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to protect PII commensurate with the risk and magnitude of the harm that would result from its unauthorized access, use, modification, loss, destruction, dissemination, or disclosure.

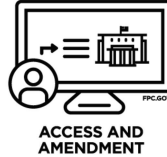


Transparency. Agencies should be transparent about information policies and practices with respect to PII, and should provide clear and accessible notice regarding creation, collection, use, processing, storage, maintenance, dissemination, and disclosure of PII.

In 2022, the Federal Privacy Council developed icons to represent each of the 9 FIPPs. Agencies may download these icons below and may use them in accordance with the guidance contained in the [FIPPs Icons Toolkit](#).



[Download Color Icons](#)



[Download Black & White Icons](#)

[Download Reverse Color Icons](#)

[Return to top](#)

[Federal CIO Council](#)

[Perf. Improvement Council](#)

[Federal CDO Council](#)

[Evaluation Officer Council](#)

[Privacy Statement](#)

[Accessibility Policy](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[About this Site](#)

[Federal CFO Council](#)

[Federal CHCO Council](#)

[Federal CAO Council](#)



FPC.gov

An Official website of the Federal Government

[About OMB](#)

[Accessibility support](#)

[FOIA requests](#)

[No FEAR Act data](#)

[Office of the Inspector General](#)

[Performance reports](#)

[Privacy policy](#).

Looking for U.S. government information and services? [Visit USA.gov](#)