

Priority: Accountability
Program Offer Type: Internal Service
Related Programs:
Frameworks:

Lead Agency: County Business
Program Contact: Dave Boyer

Executive Summary

Multnomah County is a hybrid covered entity under the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The HIPAA Security Rule requires all covered entities take action to comply with its provisions concerning the secure storage and transmission of Protected Health Information (PHI) in electronic form.

Program Description

Compliance requires policies, procedures, and training for County employees about information security in general and HIPAA Security in particular. On-going evaluation of information security is required by HIPAA as are programs for disaster recovery and business continuation. Close coordination with each Department has and will continue to take place as implementation affects the individual desktop configuration, access to and handling of data. Security awareness training is required. Measures to ensure appropriate back-up and restoration of data are required. Several departments routinely email PHI, and this information now requires encryption. On-going compliance activities include monitoring of network access attempts and reporting discrepancies, testing and revision of contingency plans, application and data criticality analysis, and auditing and documenting of business associate contracts. This work affects virtually the entire County enterprise as well as its business partners that deal with health information.

Program Justification

The HIPAA Security Rule mandates standards for information access, security, training and awareness, and physical and technical safeguards including access control and authentication. Once fully implemented, the HIPAA requirements will result in improved information security related to the public's protected health information, which increases the trust in the County by the general public. The resulting standardization of security policies and procedures across the County will help to simplify administration and to increase security. The policies, processes, and tools used to comply with HIPAA regulations will reduce the County's exposure to legal action from citizens.

Performance Measures

Number of regulations fully addressed by policy and procedures.
Number of new employees trained on HIPAA Security regulations.

Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results

2005-Completed an assessment of the County as related to the HIPAA security regulations, which identified 48 areas needing addressing in Multnomah County. Seven workgroups were established, involving department personnel, to address areas of deficiency. Related policies and procedures are being adopted. 2006-Specific remediation activities in support of the adopted policies will be fully implemented. This will require the purchase of some hardware and software to support secure data access and transmission and to provide required log trails. These funds were approved in the FY 05 budget, and are being extended to FY 06, when the specific required hardware and software products will be procured and installed.

Program Mandate: 2 Mandated Program with Funding/Service Level Choice

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Security Rule.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2005	2005	2006	2006
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$0	\$41,208	\$0	\$130,880
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$77,000
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$302,689	\$0	\$138,000
Internal Services	\$0	\$17,214	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$235,000	\$0	\$20,000
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$596,111	\$0	\$365,880
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$596,111	\$0	\$365,880
Program Total:	\$596,111		\$365,880	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
Program Revenues				
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$0	\$249,413	\$0	\$0
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$365,880
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$249,413	\$0	\$365,880

Explanation of Revenues

Internal Service Charges.

Significant Program Changes