

# Cybersecurity Foundations

Cybersecurity Awareness Month  
October 2022



New York State Comptroller  
THOMAS P. DiNAPOLI

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# Division of Local Government and School Accountability

Applied Technology Unit  
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# Everyone Has a Role in Cybersecurity

- Elected and Appointed Officials
- Department Heads
- IT Directors and Department Staff
- Staff
- Vendors and Contractors



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## Cybersecurity Posture

Everyone has a role in helping to bolster your municipality's posture against cybersecurity threats; partnerships and collaboration are key.

- 95 percent of cybersecurity issues are traced to *human error*. (The Global Risks Report 2022, 17<sup>th</sup> Edition, World Economic Forum)

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## Cybersecurity Foundations

Best practices can be easily implemented at your municipality to help strengthen your defenses.

These practices focus on the following efforts.

- Prevention
- Detection
- Remediation

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## Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Four additional webinars will be published!

- Software Updates and Patches
- Multifactor Authentication
- Strong Passwords
- Recognizing and Reporting Phishing

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## Other Foundational Practices

While this year's webinars focus on four foundational areas, also keep these in mind.

- IT Security Awareness Training
- IT Contingency Planning
- User Accounts and Permission Management

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## Other Foundational Practices (continued)

- Administrative Accounts and Permission Management
- Screensavers and Account Lockout
- Physical and Remote Access
- Hardware and Software Inventory

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## Other Foundational Practices (continued)

Our *Local Government Management Guide on Information Technology Governance* offers additional information on these topics and more.

<https://www.osc.state.ny.us/files/local-government/publications/pdf/information-technology-governance.pdf>

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## What Is the Most Important Cybersecurity Control? YOU

- Be vigilant – You can have a significant, positive impact on your municipality's cybersecurity by identifying potential problems.
- Act – Contact your IT personnel when a screen looks different, a task takes unusually long or an unfamiliar message requesting an action or information appears.

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## What Is the Most Important Cybersecurity Control? YOU (continued)

- Check – Contact your IT personnel before clicking on any attachment or link that looks suspicious, unexpected or confusing.

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## Additional LGSA Resources

Visit our website for additional cybersecurity resources.

- Publications
  - <https://www.osc.state.ny.us/local-government/publications>
- Training
  - <https://www.osc.state.ny.us/local-government/academy>

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## Additional LGSA Resources

(continued)

Visit our website for additional cybersecurity resources.

- Audits

- <https://www.osc.state.ny.us/local-government/audits>

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## Other Resources

- Center for Internet Security (CIS)
  - <https://www.cisecurity.org/>
- Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)
  - <https://www.cisa.gov/>
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
  - <https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/cyber>

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## Other Resources (continued)

- National Institute of Information Technology Services (NIST)
  - <https://www.nist.gov/cybersecurity>
- New York State
  - Office of Information Technology Services
    - <https://www.its.ny.gov>
  - Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services
    - <https://www.dhSES.ny.gov/cyber-incident-response-team>

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## Questions?

### Contact us

- LGS Applied Technology Unit's Cyber Team
  - [LGSACyberTeam@osc.ny.gov](mailto:LGSACyberTeam@osc.ny.gov)
- LGS Help Line
  - 1-866-321-8503 or
  - 518-408-4934



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16

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## Thank You!



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