



# Tier 1

## Minimum Back-Up Practices

1. Use of standardized system images or virtualized desktops. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Back-up copy of all application software must be available. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Daily incremental back-ups with a minimum of 14 days of versioning on off-network device of all data files. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Weekly, off-network, full back-up of all data files. \_\_\_\_\_
5. All back-ups are spot-checked monthly. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Third-party application data must also be backed-up to the same standards. \_\_\_\_\_

## Patching Practices

1. The municipality patches all operating an application software with the latest versions. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The municipality uses automatic updating where applicable, particularly as related to security patches. \_\_\_\_\_
3. All security and critical updates and patches are installed as soon as prudent and practicable following release. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The municipality annually reviews all non-standard applications for possible replacement/upgrade. \_\_\_\_\_

## Defensive Software

1. The municipality's antivirus and firewalls are enabled for all desktops and laptops. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The municipality's antispam and antivirus filters are enabled for the email server. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The municipality's firewalls are enabled on all active ports, and unused ports are closed. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Firewall rules and policies are reviewed or reassessed at least twice per year. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Microsoft Office applications open all downloaded files in "Protected Mode". \_\_\_\_\_

## Security Awareness Training

1. All computer users receive annual training of at least one hour on at least the following topics: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Password Construction
  - b. Identifying security incidents
  - c. Social Engineering attacks
  - d. Business email compromise



## Tier 1

### Password Strength

1. The municipality has a password policy that minimally meets the requirements outlined in the Password Policy under the MEL's Master Technology Policy Ver 2.2. \_\_\_\_\_

### Email Warning

1. The municipality has implemented an automatic warning label to all emails coming from outside of your organization. \_\_\_\_\_

### Cybersecurity Incident Response Plan

1. Management/Governing Body adopts a cybersecurity incident response plan to direct staff and guide technology management decision making when a cybersecurity incident takes place. This must include at a minimum the items in the MEL's Cybersecurity Incident Response Plan. \_\_\_\_\_

### Technology Practices Policy

1. Management/Governing Body adopts a technology practices policy, which must at a minimum include the items in the MEL's Master Technology Policy Ver 2.2 respective to Tier 1. \_\_\_\_\_

### Government Cyber Memberships

1. The municipality is registered with the New Jersey Cybersecurity & Communications Integration cell (NJCCIC). \_\_\_\_\_
2. The municipality is registered with the Multi-State Information Sharing & Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) and any other ISAC relevant to your organization's operations. \_\_\_\_\_



## MEL Cyber Risk Management Certification

# Tier 1

This document must be signed by the mayor, municipal administrator, or municipal clerk (or director of entity if not a municipality) AND your technology expert.

### **MEMBER ENTITY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **TECHNOLOGY EXPERT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Tier 2

### Server Security

1. The municipality's servers and network equipment are protected from unauthorized access. \_\_\_\_\_

### Access Privilege Controls

1. Users with administrative rights are limited to those who need them. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Non-administrator users are granted limited access rights based on job function and responsibilities. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Access rights are updated upon any personnel status change action. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Access rights for each individual are reviewed at least every six (6) months. \_\_\_\_\_

### Technology Support

1. The municipality has qualified staff or contractor(s) to provide technology support and guidance. \_\_\_\_\_

### System / Event Logging

1. The municipality has appropriate system and event logging in place to detect and/or capture system/network performance and security anomalies. \_\_\_\_\_

### Protected Information

1. The municipality has a process that ensures all files containing Personally Identifiable Information (PII) or Protected Health Information (PHI) are password protected or encrypted. \_\_\_\_\_

### Remote Access

1. The municipality requires the use of a Virtual Private Network (VPN) when remotely accessing the municipal network or cloud-base applications. This also includes adopting a Remote Access Policy. (refer to Remote Access Policy – VPN in the Master Technology Policy Ver 2.2). \_\_\_\_\_

### Leadership Expertise

1. The municipality's senior management has access to resources with expertise in their respective fields to support technology decision making, i.e., risk assessments, planning, budgeting, etc. \_\_\_\_\_



## Tier 2

### IT Business Continuity

1. The municipality's Emergency Management/Continuity of Government (CoG) plan shall include an IT Business Continuity Plan as part of their Disaster Recovery section. \_\_\_\_\_

### Banking Controls

1. The municipality has implemented internal controls to minimize fraudulent banking transactions. \_\_\_\_\_

### Technology Practice Policy

1. The Management/Governing Body has adopted the MEL's Information Technology Policy as respects to Tier 2. \_\_\_\_\_



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# Tier 2

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### **MEMBER ENTITY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Tier 3

### Network Segmentation

1. The municipal network is segmented, separating critical units (finance, police, utility, etc.) to minimize the spread of a cyber-attack. \_\_\_\_\_

### Remote Access

1. The municipality has implemented the use of Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) when remotely accessing municipal resources and/or accessing third-party applications that pass or store protected and or financial information. \_\_\_\_\_

### Remote Access Policy

1. The municipality has adapted a Remote Access Policy that includes Multi-Factor Authentication and minimally includes the items in the Remote Access Policy – MFA in the MEL's Master Technology Policy Ver 2.2. \_\_\_\_\_

### Password Integrity

1. The municipality has implemented a process where employees can periodically validate their credentials against HaveIBeenPwned or a similar email breach service. \_\_\_\_\_

### System and Event Logging

1. Logs are reviewed every three (3) months by the IT professional. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3rd Party Risk Management

1. The municipality has access to the MEL's 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Risk Assessment Tool to assess a vendor's risk when issuing new or renewing contracts. \_\_\_\_\_



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### Tier 3

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
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#### **TECHNOLOGY EXPERT**

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