



Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
550 17th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20429-9990

Financial Institution Letter
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FFIEC Cybersecurity Assessment Tool Frequently Asked Questions

Summary: The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) issued a Frequently Asked Questions guide related to the Cybersecurity Assessment Tool (CAT).

Statement of Applicability to Institutions with Less than \$1 Billion in Total Assets: This Financial Institution Letter (FIL) applies to all FDIC-supervised institutions.

Suggested Distribution:

FDIC-Supervised Banks (Commercial and Savings)

Suggested Routing:

Chief Executive Officer
Chief Information Office
Chief Information Security Officer

Attachment:

[FFIEC Cybersecurity Assessment Tool
Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Related Topics:

[FFIEC IT Examination Handbook](#)
[FFIEC Cybersecurity Awareness](#)

Contact:

Donald Saxinger, Chief, IT Supervision, at
dsaxinger@fdic.gov or (703) 254-0214

Note:

FDIC Financial Institution Letters (FILs) may be accessed from the FDIC's Web site at
<https://www.fdic.gov/news/news/financial/2016/>.

To receive FILs electronically, please visit
<https://www.fdic.gov/about/subscriptions/fil.html>.

Paper copies may be obtained through the FDIC's Public Information Center, 3501 Fairfax Drive, E-1002, Arlington, VA 22226 (1-877-275-3342 or 703-562-2200).

Highlights:

- The FFIEC published the Cybersecurity Assessment Tool in June of 2015 as a voluntary tool to help financial institutions' management identify risk and determine their cybersecurity preparedness.
- The CAT provides a repeatable and measurable process that financial institutions may use to measure their cybersecurity preparedness over time.
- Use of the tool is voluntary. Financial institution management may choose to use the CAT or another framework, or another risk assessment process to identify inherent risk and cybersecurity preparedness.
- The FAQs clarify points in the CAT and supporting materials based on questions received by the FFIEC members over the course of the last year.
- Financial institution management primarily is responsible for assessing and mitigating their institution's cybersecurity risk, including risks from services provided by third-parties. Financial institutions may find the latest information about cyber security risk management at the [FFIEC Cybersecurity Awareness website](#).