

Topics:

[data owner](#) [3], [data classification](#) [3], [trusted partner](#) [4], [personal information](#) [5], [procurement](#) [6]
[Statewide Data Sharing](#) [1]

PM-07-003 Statewide Data Sharing

Issue Date: 1/01/2007

Effective Date: 1/01/2007

PURPOSE

Data created and maintained by the State of Georgia and its political subdivisions is public property and is ultimately for the benefit of the citizens of the State. This policy is aimed at creating a cooperative culture among State Agencies that will encourage responsible sharing of data whenever possible and will encourage the removal of barriers to sharing data whenever possible. Creating an environment where the data's use can be maximized is of utmost importance in balance with the care required to ensure security and privacy.

It will be the State's goal to create such an environment where increasing the sharing of data between agencies will benefit the State of Georgia and its constituents by improving decision-making, supporting business process improvement, reducing redundancy, minimizing errors, and allowing more responsive service to citizens. Requiring the implementation of strictly adhered to data protection processes and supporting technology will enable the State to achieve its goals.

POLICY

Principles:

The decision to release information to any state agency which adheres to adequate security and privacy guidelines should be guided by two principles:

- (1) The State of Georgia owns the data that its employees have created or aggregated to the extent that a property interest in the data exists and rests with the State of Georgia; and
- (2) Georgia adheres to a statewide policy of open government, and should release data and records to other agencies unless specifically prohibited by statutory or appropriate regulatory authority. Additionally, even when there is a statutory or regulatory barrier preventing value added data sharing, the impacted agencies should propose solutions to addressing these barriers.

Data Ownership and Stewardship:

Data Ownership and Stewardship within the State of Georgia need to be assigned to provide responsible and accountable management of state data. The Data Owner will be responsible for ensuring the quality of the data and the protection of the data, based on its classification, as it is used throughout the state data enterprise. User or recipient agencies are responsible to the Data Owner and assigned Data Steward to conform to the protection and usages agreed upon based on the data's specific data classification.

Data Classification:

Defining the classification of all data owned by the State of Georgia and its political subdivisions is essential to