

# THE IAC BULLETIN

Updates from the Office of Internal Controls and Audit Compliance

## Welcome to SDI Week!

Look for daily updates from the SDI Team.

### What is the Strategic Data Initiative?

The Strategic Data Initiative (SDI) and SDI Team were created in August 2021 at the direction of Governor Larry Hogan, the State Data Office, and MDH Secretary Dennis R. Schrader. The team is tasked with reviewing data-related agreements and updating data use policies to ensure that MDH data is protected. As MDH's operations continually move toward reliance on IT systems, it is important to know where, how, and with whom our data is being shared. The review of data-related agreements is one of many new approaches MDH is taking to enhance data security.

### Who is on the SDI Team?

The SDI Team has multi-disciplinary membership to ensure adequate safeguards and access controls are in place for all MDH data-related agreements. The team includes the Team Chair, MDH Data Officer, MDH Privacy Officer, MDH Chief Information Security Officer, and additional advisory members and staff.

### What is a Data-Related Agreement?

Data-related agreement means any agreement that involves the use, transfer, or storage of MDH data. Such agreements include Data Use Agreements (DUA), Business Associate Agreements (BAA), Interagency Agreements (IA), Memoranda of Understanding (MOU), contracts, and any amendment or renewal of the previously mentioned agreements.

### VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE

The new SDI Team website is the place to go to learn about the SDI and the SDI review process, determine if your data-related agreement needs to be reviewed, and to submit your agreement.

<https://health.maryland.gov/Pages/sdi.aspx>

### CONTACT US

SDI Team

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### What does NOT need to be submitted to the SDI Team?

A submission to the SDI Team is not required for the following: Public Information Act (PIA) requests, scopes of work, project plans, data-sharing request forms, already executed agreements/contracts, requests for advice/interpretation, and any agreement that does not involve the transfer or storage of MDH data.

### Questions?

If you have questions about whether an agreement requires SDI Team approval, please email the agreement to [mdh.sditeam@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.sditeam@maryland.gov).