State of California Department of Technology

Office of Information Security

Generative Artificial Intelligence Risk Assessment

Statewide Information Management Manual (SIMM) 5305-F

February 2025

REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Date of Release	Owner	Summary of Changes
Initial Release	January 2024	California Office of Information Security - Payam Hojjat	Initial Release of SIMM 5305-F Generative Artificial Intelligence Risk Assessment
Minor Update	July 2024	California Office of Information Security - Payam Hojjat	Added clarifying questions for GenAl regarding: Review and consultation. State entity policies. User training.
Major Update	February 2025	California Office of Information Security - Kory Fesliyan	 Updated Format Restructured and revised questions Added a new section to document safeguards Added a new section for data classification Updated risk assessment table

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I. Introduction

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) has the potential to improve the delivery of government services and operations. GenAI enables enhancements to the development, adoption, and implementation of new technologies to streamline and optimize business operations and state services that California provides to its citizens. With that, it is critical for entities to be cognizant to ensure that GenAI does not lead to a state in which human life, health, property, or the environment is endangered, nor have public services be solely contingent upon these systems. GenAI systems are to be used only to augment and improve workflows, not to replace or impair the services received by the public.

As described in the <u>State of California Report: Benefits and Risks of GenAl</u> report, GenAl offers a wide variety of potential applications with varying impacts. Any application of GenAl tools within the California state government will adhere to appropriate protocols and testing procedures. To proactively address potential threats to state-owned information assets, privacy, and the welfare of California's citizens, the Statewide Information Management Manual (SIMM) 5305-F, GenAl Risk Assessment introduces a risk assessment methodology that will aid state entities in evaluating the risks associated with GenAl systems.

This SIMM is to ensure alignment with:

- Executive Order (EO) N-12-23, The White House Blueprint for a GenAl Bill of Rights
- NIST Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Framework

Please note that a completed SIMM 5310-C Privacy Threshold Assessment and Privacy Impact Assessment must be accessible upon request.

II. Risk Assessment - Part 1

Generative Artificial Intelligence Risk Assessment Part 1:

This section completed by the Chief Information Officer (CIO)

Instructions:

- This risk assessment is required for **all** GenAl procurements, acquisitions, renewals and internally developed systems.
- This risk assessment applies to free GenAl products and services, defined as any free software or service that interacts with state data. Examples include users entering state data into conversational GenAl platforms or installing GenAl plugins and extensions. However, this assessment does not apply in cases where state data is not being used, such as browsing the web with search engine GenAl results or using conversational GenAl systems where no state data is entered.
- This risk assessment is required for **existing** GenAl tools that were acquired prior to the release of this document. These assessments must be retained and accessible by the entity as it may be requested during an information security program audit or assessment.
- State entities complete SIMM 5305-F, Risk Assessment Part 1 to determine the level of risk associated with a GenAl system.
- After completion, submit a Case via the New Technology Consultation and Assessment request, in the CDT IT Service Portal for all risk levels. When the request has been processed, a CDT Customer Engagement Services (CES) representative will reach out to provide a secure location to upload the required documents.
- CDT reserves the right to audit and consult on "Low" GenAl Risk Levels with potential higher risk concerns.
- Only complete SIMM 5305-F, Risk Assessment Part 2 if the GenAl system risk level is rated **Moderate** or **High**.
- **Important**: Once completed, this form is confidential and may be exempt from disclosure pursuant to Government Code sections 7929.210 and 8592.45.

III. GenAl Risk Level Assessment Scale

Apply the highest watermark between system, data, and business process.

FIPS 199 System	Data Classification Type	Business Processes That Involve	
Categorization	Data Classification Type	(examples):	
HIGH (Red) Depending on the nature and sensitivity of the affected systems or information, losses related to confidentiality, integrity, and availability may still result in severe or catastrophic adverse impacts	Conf/Privacy Related The data inputs, activities, and outputs involve processing of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) or confidential information. Safety Related The data inputs, activities, and outputs involve or lead to decision-making within the end-to-end business process that could affect public safety.	 Inputs and processing of confidential data types such as privacy, authentication, biometric identification, financial, medical, procurement, investigative, national security, network architecture schematics, ports, protocols, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA), and others. Inputs and processing of data that inform safety decisions, such as water treatment ratios, load-bearing specifications for bridges, and similar critical information. 	
MODERATE (Yellow) Depending on the nature and sensitivity of the affected systems or information, losses related to confidentiality, integrity, and availability may still result in <i>serious</i> adverse impacts	Decision Related, Non-Conf/Privacy Related, Resident Related The data inputs, activities, and outputs are non-PII, non-confidential; however, the business process involves or leads to resident-facing decisions (programs and services for the public). Decision Related, Non-Conf/Privacy Related, Not Validated The data inputs, activities, and outputs are non-PII, non-confidential, and involve or lead to decision-making within the end-to-end business process, however, the original GenAl Model/source is not verified and validated by an adequately qualified subject matter expert. Mission Related, Resident Facing Web Apps The data inputs, activities, and outputs that involve systems classified as mission-critical, state-critical, critical infrastructure or systems that are resident (public) facing.	 Code Analysis and Development Tools (e.g., static and dynamic code analysis, code generation tools, code assistant tools, platforms used to create GenAl solutions). Chatbots (e.g., internal chatbots for resource finding and process advice, resident-facing chatbots for public interaction and information retrieval). Public and Direct Contact Services (e.g., customer service, public relations, jurisprudence, output providing recommendations such as legal, tax, regulatory advice). Critical Infrastructure and Safety (e.g., handling mission-critical apps/systems, service eligibility assessments for housing or income assistance, drafting organizational documents, generating data for public use like soil composition or seismic considerations). 	
LOW (Green) Depending on the nature and sensitivity of the affected systems or information, losses related to confidentiality, integrity, and availability may still result in <i>limited</i> adverse impacts	Non-Decision Related, Non-Conf/Privacy Related The data inputs, activities, and outputs are non-PII, non-confidential, and neither involve nor lead to decision-making throughout the end-to-end business process that the GenAI system is being used for. Decision Related, Non-Conf/Privacy Related, Validated The data inputs, activities, and outputs are non-PII, non-confidential, and involve or lead to decision-making throughout the end-to-end business process, with the original source verified and validated by an adequately qualified subject matter expert.	 Network and Security Tools (e.g., packet inspection, system monitoring, intrusion prevention/detection, spam filtering tools, malware detection tools like anti-virus, anti-malware, and endpoint detection & response). Content and Communication Tools (e.g., grammar correction tools, summarization tools, reference generating tools like laws, case law, policies, translation tools, text to speech, and content creation tools for image, video, ads, and marketing). 	

Data Classification

Select all that apply to identify the data types at risk. Take into account the potential impact to data types in this risk assessment questionnaire (note: data types may overlap across categories).

☐ Personal Identifiable Information - Information that identifies or describes an individual, in accordance with	☐ Confidential - Information maintained by state agencies that is exempt from disclosure under the provisions of the California Public
Civil Code Section 1798.3 and 1798.29.	Records Act (Government Code Sections 7923.75-7923.55, 7929.210 7930.000-7930.005, 7930.100-7930.215) or has restrictions or
 □ Individual's first name or initial and last name □ Date of Birth 	disclosure in accordance with other applicable state or federal laws.
	disclosure in accordance with other applicable state or federal laws. 1. □ Intelligence information in support of Homeland Security and National Defense 2. □ Attorney/Client Privileged and or Work Product Doctrine 3. □ Controlled Technical Information (CTI) (e.g., Network security info, diagrams, security & transaction logs, encryption keys) 4. □ Intellectual property, such as patents, copyright, trade secrets 5. □ Proprietary 6. □ Electronic Health Record (EHR) information subject to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy and Security Rules 7. □ Protected Health Information (PHI) subject to HIPAA Privacy or Security Rules 8. □ Medical Information as defined by the California Confidentiality
government document commonly used to verify identity of a specific individual 19. □ Security code, access code, password, and username/email address 20. □ Health insurance information 21. □ Unique biometric data, such as fingerprints,	 15. □ Sensitive data that requires a higher-than-normal assurance of accuracy and completeness 16. □ Other:
retina, or iris scans, used for authentication 22. □ Physical or digital photograph, if used or stored for facial recognition purposes 23. □ Information collected through automated license plate recognition systems (GC Section 1798.90.5). 24. □ Genetic data 25. □ Personal data as defined by European Privacy Law (EEA and UK GDPR) 26. □ Special data as defined by EEA and UK GDPR 27. □ Other:	 □ Public Information - Information maintained by state agencies that is not exempt from disclosure under the provisions of the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 7929.210) or other applicable state or federal laws. 1. □ Research Data - Other (Non-human subjects, Animal, etc.) 2. □ Other Program-Related Research Data 3. □ Human Subject Research Data 4. □ Federal Acquisition Regulations information other than CUI 5. □ Sensitive data that requires a higher-than-normal assurance of accuracy and completeness 6. □ Other:

Risk Assessment Questionnaire

GenAl Description and Use Case:
(a) What is the vendor's name that offers the GenAl?
(b) What is the application and/or product name?
(c) What is the model and version of the product?
(d) What is the license tier of the GenAl product, if applicable (free, enterprise, platinum, etc.)?
(e) How is the GenAl solution delivered: laaS, PaaS, SaaS, or will it be deployed on-premises? (Indicate if this is a thin client, thick client, web extension, plugin, etc.)

(f) What is the current end-to-end business process?	
(Provide a brief overview of the workflow that is currently being performed).	
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(g) Which aspects of the end-to-end business process will the GenAl support AND how will you use GenAl?	
(Provide a brief overview of what the GenAl solution will replace, enhance, or introduce as a new functionality	,
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(h) What safeguards will be deployed with this GenAl product?		
Work with your security teams to identify safeguards that apply. Review section V - <u>GenAl Sample Safeguards</u> to help complete this section if applicable. Please note that CDT Safeguards are inherited when CDT managed services are used.		
• For example: Safeguard: Will ensure all GenAl input and output data is validated by an adequately qualified subject matter expert.		
 State agencies/entities must consider their own tailored mitigation processes and procedures specific to their GenAl product. 		

(i) What GenAl features of this product will be disabled, if any (e.g., incidental GenAl features that come with renewals but will be disabled)?	(j) Will there be tailored training and specific rules of engagement for stakeholders to ensure proper usage of the system, with adherence required for each use case?
	□ Yes
	□ No
FIPS 199 Categorization Level: to be completed by ISO	or equivalent
All GenAl data must be taken into context, and an associa	ted categorization must be given based on the highest
severity. This includes prompt data, output data, data sout	_
(a) Is the GenAl tool being used for mission-critical applic	cations or processes? Briefly explain.
(b) Confidentiality: What is the potential impact to the or	ganization if this system results in unauthorized
disclosure of information.	
Level (choose only one):	Impact Description:
☐ High	
☐ Moderate	
□ Low	
	d madification or death estimation of information
(c) Integrity: What is the potential impact of unauthorized	a modification or destruction of information.
Lovel (chases only one):	Impact Description:
Level (choose only one):	impact Description.
☐ High	
□ Moderate	
□ Low	
(d) Availability: What is the potential impact of disruption	n to the availability of the system or its services.
Level (choose only one):	Impact Description:
☐ High	
☐ Moderate	
□ Low	
(e) Based on the responses to the FIPS 199 Categorizati system/application/service?	ons, what is the overall level of the protection for this
FIPS 199 - Protection Level Needed (choose only	Comments or additional notes (if any):
one):	
High	
☐ Moderate	
□ Low	
LOW	

GenAl Risk Level:					
According to section III. GenAl Risk Level Assessment Scale, what is the highest watermark based on the FIPS 199					
System Categorization, Data Classification, and Business Processes?					
Cystem Categorization, Data	Olassincation, and be	13111033 1	10003303:		
(CDT reserves the right t	(CDT reserves the right to audit and consult on "Low" GenAl Risk Levels with potential higher risk concerns)				
	□ Low	□ Mode	erate	□ High	
Safeguard Level: Based on the safeguards in (h), what level of safeguards have been identified for implementation for this GenAl system.					
 □ Not Identified - Safeguards have not yet been reviewed or considered for this system or use case □ Partially Identified - Some safeguards have been recognized, but further evaluation is needed □ Mostly Identified - Most safeguards have been identified, with minor gaps remaining □ Fully Identified - All safeguards have been identified and documented for implementation □ Not Applicable - Safeguards are deemed unnecessary or irrelevant for this system or use case 					
Required Signatures for I	Risk Assessment P	art 1			
You are required to ensure the is updated to address GenAl. Privacy Threshold Assessr Assessment must be accessil	. A completed SIMM 5 ment and Privacy	5310-Č			
f additional GenAl features are enabled in the future beyond those outlined in this document, a new SIMM i305-F must be submitted for review.					
By signing this document, the		41 4			
the state entity certifies the ir risk level, and understands mandated to comply to all (privacy policies (SAM Section	ntended GenAl use ca that all procuremen CDT-published securi	ase, its its are ty and	CIO Signature		Date



End of Risk Assessment Part 1 – Only continue if the GenAl Risk Assessment is Moderate or High.

IV. Risk Assessment - Part 2

Generative Artificial Intelligence Risk Assessment Part 2:

This section completed by the Chief Information Officer (CIO)

Instructions:

- State entities complete this form when required.
- Complete SIMM 5305-F, Part 2 if the **GenAl system risk level is rated Moderate or High.**
- After completion, submit a Case via the New Technology Consultation and Assessment request, in the CDT IT Service
 Portal for all risk levels. When the request has been processed, a CDT Customer Engagement Services (CES)
 representative will reach out to provide a secure location to upload required documents as part of the GenAl consultation
 process.
- **Important:** Once completed, this form is confidential and may be exempt from disclosure pursuant to Government Code sections 7929.210 and 8592.45.

Mandatory Minimum Safeguards:

Instructions:

• Checkmark all the safeguards your system is in compliance with. All safeguards must be met and will be discussed with CDT during consultation for compliance.

Yes	No	N/A	
			The GenAl system workflow includes human verification to ensure accuracy and factuality of the output.
			The GenAl system will not have the potential to degrade public services.
			The GenAl system will not adversely impact the availability of resources and services provided by the State of California.
			If the GenAl system is a shared system, is there an existing data-sharing agreement between parties including roles & responsibilities for data owner, custodian, user, etc.?
			User accounts for the GenAl tool is managed by a state-owned identity access and management tool (e.g. Active Directory).
			Business services are not contingent on the system's use. In the event of system failure or inaccurate results, the State of California can continue to provide the same level of services without disruption.
			The state entity has safeguards in place to protect data used by the GenAl tool from being exposed to the internet.
			The state entity uses safeguards that comply with the state-defined security parameters for NIST SP 800-53, SIMM 5300-A, and SAM Section 5300.5.
			Cloud-based GenAl systems comply with Cloud Computing Policy SAM 4893.1 and Cloud Security Guide SIMM 140, which states that all data will remain in the United States and that no remote access will be allowed outside of the United States.
			All remote access uses Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and complies with the Telework and Remote Access Security Standard (SIMM 5360-A).
			All confidential, sensitive, or personal information is encrypted in accordance with SAM 5350.1 (Encryption) and SIMM 5305-A (Information Security Program Management Standard) and at the necessary level of encryption for the data classification pursuant to SAM 5305.5 (Information Asset Management).

			All data, hardware, software, internal systems, and essential third-party software, including for on-premises, cloud, and hybrid environments, are aligned with a zero-trust architecture model in accordance with NIST 800-27.		
			All data is subject to Civil Code 1798.99.80 – 1798.99.89 and will not be sold or advertised to data brokers.		
			Unless specified in the contract, prompts or Generated Data resulting from such Prompts constitute a Work Product. Contractors may not use, copy, modify, distribute, or disclose any such Prompts or Generated Data for any purpose other than performing their obligations under the Contract unless expressly authorized by the State in writing.		
			To the extent any Prompts or Ge retain Government Purpose Righ	nerated Data constitute Work Product, the State will ts.	
			The GenAl system will opt out of may be used to train commercial	any data collection and model training features that instances of GenAl systems.	
			GenAl output will not infringe on copyright or intellectual property laws and is compliant with open-source licenses, if applicable. GenAl output will be cited (from credible sources) if any statements used as facts are generated and published for consumer use. All generated images and videos will cite any GenAl used in their creation, even if the images are substantially edited afterward.		
			The GenAl system will not spoof or engage in fraud, including deepfake creation, impersonation, phishing, other social engineering, or manipulation of other GenAl systems.		
			The GenAl system is designed to avoid generating or creating illicit content that may be controversial, subjective, or potentially not widely accepted by the public.		
			The GenAl system will not improperly systematically, indiscriminately, large-scale monitor, surveil, or track individuals.		
			arency:		
no	otify a u	ser tha	m will the GenAl system use to they are interacting with a GenAl an a human?	(b) What mechanisms can be used to audit the system and its data?	

(c) How will the system disclose to the customer that the data generated is by GenAl? (e.g. watermark, banner)	(d) How will customers receive an output, and what is the mechanism to correct or appeal an error?
Human Oversight and Monitoring:	
(a) How will system owners identify and mitigate hallucinations and that data outputs are accurate and factual? What ability will system owners have to accept, reject, and correct data?	(b) Will the system be publicly accessible or only within a state-managed environment? Who is the intended audience, and will it impact a specific group of individuals or communities? Briefly explain.
(a) Have will exist an average test evaluate and verify	(4) Will love be everible in a new promistory former
(c) How will system owners test, evaluate, and verify that the GenAl system's original designated GenAl Risk Level will or has not changed? (e.g., changes to use, data, privacy, cost)	(d) Will logs be available in a non-proprietary format, that can be ingested into a Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) tool? Briefly explain.

the system make decisions that rsity, Equity, Inclusion, and IA) of individuals? Briefly explain.
sions impact public safety? (e.g., netrics)? Briefly explain.
e Date
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End of Risk Assessment Part 2

V. GenAl Use Cases & Safeguard Samples

The following section lists high-level categories for the wide variety of functionality for GenAl with sampled public sector use cases. The example use cases are only intended to help illustrate the potential uses for state government adoption of GenAl tools.

While these use cases and safeguards offer a solid foundation for mitigating risks associated with GenAl tools, state entities are **required** to tailor their approach to the specific use cases and products that they employ. Given the diverse range of GenAl applications and their associated risks, it is crucial to conduct a thorough risk assessment for each specific use case. By analyzing factors such as system categorization, data type and business process, entities can optimize their security posture and minimize potential risks.

Safeguards (Common)

This section outlines a list of general risks along with their corresponding safeguards. These risks are not tied to any specific use case. State agencies/entities should review this section in conjunction with the section relevant to their specific use case to gain a better understanding of potential risks and their mitigation strategies.

Common Safeguards

Risk: Inadvertent exposure of sensitive or confidential information, either through data input, processing, storage, or generated outputs.

Mitigation: Anonymize or obfuscate sensitive information before inputting it into GenAl systems.

Mitigation: Implement strict role-based access to GenAl platforms and their outputs, limiting access to GenAl tools and data to authorized personnel, enforcing the principle of least privilege.

Mitigation: Use end-to-end encryption for all data interactions with GenAl tools. **Mitigation**: Apply data masking or redaction to sensitive data before processing it through GenAl tools.

Mitigation: Avoid using third-party or public GenAl solutions for sensitive use cases.

Mitigation: Ensure acceptable use policies include a data handling component that addresses the use of sensitive and confidential information with publicly available GenAl tools; including the use of internally hosted generative Al tools that are on commercial clouds that could still expose that data to the internet.

Mitigation: Review vendor privacy statements to identify what type of information is being shared with affiliates and that privacy and confidential data does not get shared.

Mitigation: Use vendors with clear data protection and non-retention policies.

Mitigation: Obtain copies of vendor certificates to ensure their stated security compliance matches their security certificate (e.g., vendor claims SOC Type2 compliance but uses a certificate from their hosting provider and not their own).

Mitigation: Review data sharing statements to ensure data is transmitted does not leave the continental united states.

Mitigation: Review vendor privacy statements to ensure that the data is encrypted in transmit and at rest.

Mitigation: Opt for in-house or private cloud-based GenAl solutions when handling sensitive data.

Mitigation: Require review of outputs by network security professionals to ensure that no sensitive details are unintentionally revealed or misrepresented.

Mitigation: Deploy GenAl tools in isolated, secure environments without external internet connectivity to prevent data leaks.

Mitigation: Train employees about appropriate usage and discourage inputting personal or sensitive data.

Risk: GenAl may produce errors, Mitigation: Require subject matter expert (SME) review and approval of all inconsistencies, or outputs that do outputs before implementation. not align with the business Mitigation: Use well-curated, domain-specific datasets to improve the model's context, leading to flawed understanding and accuracy. decisions. Mitigation: Integrate tools to validate outputs for correctness and alignment with predefined rules. Mitigation: Perform regular audits of GenAl-generated data to ensure continued accuracy and to detect any emerging errors or discrepancies. Mitigation: Include metadata or disclaimers with summaries indicating potential limitations or areas requiring manual review. Mitigation: Review laws and regulations to ensure that GenAl tools are following disclosures and disclaimers from regulatory entities (government codes, assembly bills, election laws, etc.) Mitigation: Allow users to flag inaccuracies and provide feedback for system improvement. **Mitigation**: Configure the tools to provide links back to the source material. Mitigation: Train staff on how to verify outputs for accuracy and find source of Mitigation: Use a curated set of validated responses for frequently asked questions. Mitigation: Regularly audit GenAl systems for bias and apply techniques to **Risk:** Outputs may reflect biases present in the training data, reduce bias in outputs. Mitigation: Ensure datasets are inclusive, representative, and free of systemic leading to unfair or discriminatory results. bias. **Mitigation:** Use explainable AI (XAI) techniques to assess and justify outputs. Mitigation: Provide clear and transparent mechanisms for individuals to appeal decisions made using GenAl tools. Mitigation: Involve DEIA professionals in the review and validation of outputs used for decision-making. Mitigation: Use representative test cases to evaluate the model's behavior across different demographics or situations. **Risk:** Excessive dependence on Mitigation: Combine human expertise with GenAl insights rather than fully automating decisions. GenAl could reduce human oversight and critical thinking, Mitigation: Educate users on the limitations of GenAl and the importance of increasing susceptibility to maintaining human judgment. undetected errors. Mitigation: Establish manual processes to take over in case GenAl fails or outputs unreliable results. Mitigation: Use models that provide clear explanations for their decisions to enable better oversight. Mitigation: Implement new GenAl-driven decision-making systems in controlled environments before full deployment to evaluate reliability and fairness. Mitigation: Host GenAl systems in secure environments with firewalls, intrusion **Risk:** GenAl systems and their outputs may be targeted by detection, and vulnerability scanning. attackers to steal or manipulate Mitigation: Conduct periodic reviews to identify and address vulnerabilities in sensitive information. GenAl systems. Mitigation: Limit the flow of sensitive data to only the required systems and processes. Mitigation: Use automated tools to validate GenAl outputs against relevant laws **Risk:** GenAl outputs may and standards. unintentionally breach compliance with laws and regulations, e.g., Mitigation: Have legal teams review processes and outputs that may affect data privacy regulations, compliance. procurement standards.

	Mitigation: Maintain detailed documentation of how data is processed by GenAl to ensure auditability.
Risk: GenAl-generated content may unintentionally replicate copyrighted material or proprietary information from training data.	Mitigation: Use plagiarism detection tools to ensure outputs are unique. Mitigation: Train models only on licensed, public domain, or organizationally owned datasets. Mitigation: Include IP experts to review outputs for potential infringement risks.
Risk: Outputs may include insensitive, offensive, or harmful content, leading to ethical concerns or reputational harm.	Mitigation: Implement safeguards to identify and block offensive or inappropriate outputs. Mitigation: Transparently disclose the use of GenAl and its role in decision-making. Mitigation: Use diverse and representative datasets to train GenAl to minimize the risk of generating harmful stereotypes. Mitigation: Have culturally aware reviewers assess content targeted at specific demographics.
Risk: It may be unclear who is accountable for errors or harm caused by GenAl-generated outputs.	Mitigation: Establish clear policies assigning responsibility for validating and approving GenAl outputs. Mitigation: Maintain logs that track who used the GenAl system, what inputs were provided, and how outputs were utilized. Mitigation: Periodically assess the system's performance and outputs to identify areas for improvement.
Risk: The computational demands of GenAl-based solutions (e.g., processing large datasets or analyzing complex code samples) might strain system resources, leading to reduced system performance or slower response times.	Mitigation: Use lightweight GenAl models or distributed processing to reduce system impact. Mitigation: Implement tools to monitor and manage resource utilization in real time. Mitigation: Ensure backup systems are available in case of resource exhaustion during high-demand periods.
Risk: The public (residents) may struggle to understand the reasoning behind GenAlgenerated eligibility determinations, leading to confusion or mistrust.	 Mitigation: Integrate tools that provide clear explanations of how eligibility decisions were made. Mitigation: Maintain detailed logs of input data, the model's decision process, and outcomes for auditability and accountability. Mitigation: Ensure eligibility decisions are conveyed in a clear and accessible manner to applicants. Mitigation: Ensure all GenAl input and output data is validated by an adequately qualified subject matter expert.
Risk: The GenAl may not be fully accessible to individuals with disabilities or may fail to support diverse user groups effectively.	Mitigation: Ensure the GenAl tool complies with accessibility standards, such as WCAG, to accommodate users with disabilities. Mitigation: Provide support for multiple languages or dialects, depending on the demographic it serves. Mitigation: Conduct user testing with diverse groups to optimize ease of use and accessibility.
Risk: GenAl might fail to identify when an issue or interaction requires escalation to a human representative, leading to unresolved or improperly handled situations.	Mitigation: Implement clear rules for escalating complex or sensitive interactions to human agents. Mitigation: Use intent recognition models to identify and flag interactions that may require escalation. Mitigation: Collect user feedback to identify gaps in the escalation process and improve the system.

Safeguards (Use-Case Specific)

Grammar correcting tools

e.g., grammar assistant tools, rewording and revising text, providing alternative text

Risk: Inadvertently exposing data to the internet due to working with sensitive and confidential information throughout the course of work.

Mitigation: Host the tools internally on the state network.

Mitigation: Leverage API instead of working directly with the vendor's website. **Mitigation**: Update acceptable use policy to address data handling of sensitive and confidential information with grammar correcting tools.

Mitigation: Configure the tool off by default and for users to toggle the tool on when using it.

Mitigation: Read privacy statements to identify what type of information gets processed by the vendors cloud, how long it is stored, and how it gets deleted. **Mitigation**: Purchase the right license level that gives the state more configuration options over the tools.

Mitigation: Negotiate and redline contracts on data collection and data sharing with vendors to minimize the data exposure.

Mission, State, or Critical Infrastructure

e.g., handling systems classified as mission, state, or critical infrastructure

Risk: Tools may be hosted in an environment with insufficient safeguard that expose mission, state, or critical infrastructure.

Mitigation: Ensure that the safeguards implemented match the level of the criticality of the mission, state, or critical infrastructure (e.g., mission critical web apps at moderate safeguards replicate to a moderate development environment).

Mitigation: Segment the network so that systems categorized as low, moderate, and high have security zones that match low, moderate, and high safeguards. **Mitigation:** Adopt a Zero Trust security model, where every interaction with critical infrastructure—whether initiated by GenAl or a human operator—

requires verification before granting access.

Mitigation: Implement comprehensive logging and monitoring of GenAl activities within mission-critical apps/systems, including auditing interactions that involve sensitive configuration or system design tasks.

Network Analysis Tools

e.g., packet inspection, system monitoring, intrusion prevention/detection

Risk: GenAl models could generate false positives (incorrectly flagging benign activities as threats) or false negatives (failing to detect actual threats), potentially undermining the reliability of intrusion detection and prevention systems.

In addition to the safeguards given for inaccuracies in GenAl performance in Common Risks/Safeguards section, consider the following:

Mitigation: Regularly retrain GenAl models using updated threat intelligence to reduce false positives and false negatives.

Mitigation: Implement a human review process for flagged threats to validate or dismiss potential issues.

Mitigation: Fine-tune detection thresholds based on feedback and observed network behavior to reduce incorrect alerts.

Spam and Malware Detection

e.g., web gateway filtering, email gateway filtering e.g., anti-virus, anti-malware, endpoint detection & response

Risk: GenAl models may incorrectly identify legitimate emails, web content, and files as spam or malware, causing

In addition to the safeguards given for the risk of inaccuracies in GenAl performance in Common Risks/Safeguards section, consider the following: **Mitigation**: Implement mechanisms for users to report false positives and retrain the model based on this feedback.

disruptions to business communications and workflows.	Mitigation: Allow for exceptions through whitelisting of critical email addresses, domains, web content, or files.
Risk: The model may fail to detect sophisticated spam, phishing attempts, malicious content, or malware potentially leading to security breaches.	In addition to the safeguards given for the risk of inaccuracies in GenAl performance in Common Risks/Safeguards section, consider the following: Mitigation: Combine traditional rule-based filtering with GenAl models to improve detection accuracy. Mitigation: Continuously retrain GenAl with up-to-date spam, phishing patterns, and malware samples to identify evolving threats. Mitigation: Augment spam filtering and malware detection solutions with tools that monitor for malicious activity post-delivery (e.g., link-click analysis, sandbox execution).
Risk: Attackers may deliberately craft spam or malicious content to bypass GenAl filters and poison the model's learning process, reducing its effectiveness.	Mitigation: Regularly test the spam filter and malware detectors against adversarial examples to ensure robustness. Mitigation: Vet incoming training data to avoid incorporating malicious or misleading inputs. Mitigation: Use isolated environments to test model updates before deploying them into production.

Reference Generating Tools

e.g., laws, case law, judgements	, policies, procedures
Risk: GenAl tools may generate	Mitigation: Continuously update the training data with the latest legal, policy,
references based on outdated	and procedural information.
laws, policies, or judgments, or	Mitigation: Validate generated references against official or authoritative
omit critical updates, leading to	sources before use.
incorrect or incomplete advice.	Mitigation: Include metadata indicating when the reference was last verified to
	highlight potential currency issues.
Risk: GenAl may generate	Mitigation: Train GenAl models with data specific to the relevant contexts.
references that are applicable to a	Mitigation: Require users to provide jurisdictional or contextual information to
different jurisdiction or context,	guide GenAl outputs.
leading to misapplication of laws	Mitigation: Require legal experts to confirm applicability and accuracy of
or policies.	references in the given context.

Content Creation Tools

e.g. image creators, video creators, ads, marketing	
Risk: GenAl tools may collect and	Mitigation: Redline contracts to minimize data collection.
process personal data, which	Mitigation : Review license levels to identify if there are product versions that
could be vulnerable to breaches.	enable administrative configuration by state staff to restrict data collection.
Risk: GenAl tools may produce	Mitigation: Establish clear organizational policies for acceptable content
content that is misleading,	creation, ensuring compliance with advertising standards and consumer
manipulative, or violates ethical	protection laws.
marketing practices, potentially	Mitigation: Require a review process to validate that content aligns with ethical
harming trust or misleading	and legal standards before publication.
consumers.	Mitigation: Disclose when content has been Al-generated to maintain trust.
	Mitigation: Prepare plans to mitigate fallout from potential reputational harm
	caused by AI content.

Translation Tools

e, g., meeting summarization, audio/video to text	
Risk: Al tools may collect and process sensitive information, such as personal conversations and proprietary business data. In addition to the safeguards given for the risk implying inadve sensitive information, given in Common Risks/Safeguards section the following: Mitigation: Obtain consent before recording meetings. Mitigation: Limit how long audio, video, and transcription data ensure proper deletion protocols.	ection, consider

Generative Al Platforms & Code Analysis

e.g., static and dynamic code analysis, code generation tools, code assistant tools e.g., developer tools	
Risk: Al models can introduce bugs and backdoors over time, or do not adhere to best practices of security (e.g., lack of input validation, hardcoding credentials)	Mitigation: Generate small batches of code at a time and have staff review it to ensure that they understand everything that is being generated. Mitigation: Avoid generating thousands of lines of code that can't be thoroughly inspected. Mitigation: Add comments to each line of code that is Al generated that explains what it is doing to confirm staff understand the code that was generated.
Risk: mismatched safeguard levels with supported computing resources (e.g., development server has Low safeguards, but the supported systems are classified as moderate, thereby exposing moderate development (e.g., code, data records) in the development environment with Low safeguards.	Mitigation: Deploy the same level of safeguards as the systems that are being supported. Mitigation: Sanitize data being used in development environments. Mitigation: Implement strong access controls and strong authentication mechanisms to limit unauthorized access to LLM model repositories and training environments. Mitigation: Restrict the LLMs access to network resources, internal services and API's. Mitigation: Regularly monitor and audit access logs and activities related to LLM model repositories to detect and respond to any suspicious activities.
Risk: Developers may over-rely on Al-generated code, leading to reduced understanding of underlying logic and potential propagation of errors.	Mitigation: Require thorough documentation of all Al-generated code to promote understanding and accountability. Mitigation: Encourage collaborative review processes where one developer writes while another reviews the code (pair programming).
Risk: Al-generated code may suggest or introduce third-party libraries or dependencies that are outdated, insecure, or poorly maintained.	Mitigation: Use tools to identify and validate the security and maintenance status of suggested dependencies. Mitigation: Restrict AI tools to a pre-approved list of secure and well-maintained libraries. Mitigation: Regularly review third-party dependencies in generated code for vulnerabilities.
Risk: Al-generated code might inadvertently replicate copyrighted material or violate licensing terms, leading to intellectual property disputes.	Mitigation: Use automated tools to check generated code for licensing conflicts. Mitigation: Ensure AI models are trained on datasets with clear, appropriate licensing. Mitigation: Involve legal teams to review and approve policies governing the use of AI-generated code.
Risk: Al-generated code may be suboptimal, leading to performance issues such as	Mitigation: Apply performance profiling tools to assess and optimize generated code. Mitigation: Compare Al-generated outputs against best-practice implementations to ensure efficiency (benchmarking).

increased memory usage or slower execution times.	Mitigation: Allow developers to iteratively refine AI outputs for better performance.
Risk: Generated code might not comply with industry regulations,	Mitigation: Incorporate compliance checks as part of the code review process.
security standards, or	Mitigation: Train developers to understand applicable compliance
organizational policies (e.g., SIMM 5300 series).	requirements for their industry. Mitigation: Use AI tools that are specifically designed to comply with relevant regulations.
Risk: When errors arise in Al-	Mitigation: Require Al-generated code to be committed to version control
generated code, it may be difficult to assign accountability or trace	with clear labeling. Mitigation: Enable logging of AI tool activities to maintain traceability of code
the origin of the problem.	generation. Mitigation: Ensure developers take ownership of Al-generated code by requiring signoffs.
Risk: False positives (granting	Mitigation: Use biometrics in combination with other authentication factors
access to unauthorized users) or false negatives (denying access to	(e.g., PIN, token). Mitigation: Regularly validate the accuracy of biometric algorithms with
legitimate users) due to errors in biometric recognition models.	diverse datasets. Mitigation: Implement secondary authentication methods for denied users to verify their identity, aka fallback mechanisms.
Risk: Sensitive biometric data	Mitigation: Encrypt biometric data at rest and in transit using strong
(e.g., fingerprints, facial data) could be exposed, stolen, or	cryptographic methods. Mitigation: Store only necessary biometric templates instead of raw biometric
misused, leading to identity theft or privacy breaches.	data. Mitigation: Process data locally rather than transmitting it to external servers,
	where feasible. Mitigation: Implement strict access controls to ensure only authorized
Birt HAA	personnel can access biometric data.
Risk : LLM documents become stale resulting in inaccurate	Mitigation : Create an LLM update and release strategy to minimize the gap between changes to documents and the re-training of the LLM model.
information being provided to staff or the public.	Mitigation : Communication to staff when policies change prior to updates to the LLM.
Risk: Reliance on open LLMs data sources can weaken model	Mitigation: Continuously benchmark the model's performance against
accuracy to due malicious actors	established benchmarks to identify unexpected drops in accuracy or changes in behavior.
manipulating the training data.	Mitigation: Enforce privilege control on LLM access to backend systems. Mitigation: Segregate external content from user prompts and limit the influence when untrusted content is used.
	Mitigation : Maintain fine user control on decision making capabilities by LLM. Mitigation : Use content safety filters for prompt inputs and its responses.
	Mitigation: Use TLS to encrypt all HTTP-based network traffic. Use other mechanisms, such as IPSec, to encrypt non-HTTP network traffic that
Risk: Insufficient scrutiny of LLM	contains customer or confidential data. Mitigation: Treat the model as any other user. Adopt a zero-trust approach.
output, unfiltered acceptance of	Apply proper input validation on responses coming from the model to backend
the LLM output could lead to unintended code execution.	functions. Mitigation: Encode model output back to users to mitigate undesired code
Risk: Extensions, plugins, API's	execution by JavaScript or Markdown. Mitigation: Ensure there is a vulnerability management policy in place.
that are out of date or unknown can expose the development	Mitigation : Ensure there is a vulnerability patch and update procedures in place.

environment and reach mission,	Mitigation: Carefully vet data sources and suppliers, including T&Cs and their
state, or critical infrastructure.	privacy policies, only using trusted suppliers.
	Mitigation : Only use reputable plug-ins and ensure they have been tested for
	your application requirements.
	Mitigation: Implement sufficient monitoring to cover component and
	environment vulnerabilities scanning, use of unauthorized plugins, and out-of-
	date components, including the model and its artifacts.

Chatbots

e.g. used internally by entity for finding resources, getting advice on processes and procedures, locating documents.	
Risk: Employees may be unable to access critical internal resources if the chatbot is unavailable due to outages or high demand.	Mitigation: Maintain alternative methods for accessing internal resources. Mitigation: Use load balancing to handle high usage volumes and ensure consistent availability. Mitigation: Set up alerts for system downtime and have a defined escalation process to resolve issues quickly.
Risk : Staff input personal information into the chatbot to try and get tailored information.	Mitigation: Create or update the acceptable use policy and outline how the tool should be used. Mitigation: Add a one-time popup disclaimer that users acknowledge that the tool should be used for work related activities only.
Risk : Staff input personal and confidential information into prompts that get logged.	Mitigation: Update acceptable use to mitigate for misuse. Mitigation: Communicate to staff that inputs get logged and safeguard their own information by not entering personal information into GenAl tools.
Risk: Staff input questions related to bias or DEIA	Mitigation : provide default prompt responses letting staff know that the information is not available and to only use the tool as outlined in the acceptable use policy.
Risk : Staff use GenAl outputs to make decisions.	 Mitigation: disclaimers, banners, and contact reminders that AI tools can make mistakes and to verify and validate the source of the outputs. Mitigation: Verify and validate the outputs by an adequately qualified subject matter expert.
Risk: Administrators see input/output logs that contain confidential information.	Mitigation: Ensure administrators who have access to the input/output logs have the right background clearance and security training to be able to view that data. Mitigation: Configure data anonymization.
Risk : Crafty inputs can train the back end LLM.	Mitigations : Create a test plan and include various crafty prompts that try to get the LLM to respond in an unintended manner.

Input Processing

e.g., inputting and processing of hiring information		
e.g., inputting and processing of personal or sensitive data in an open environment		
e.g., processing sensitive data for national security or intelligence purposes		
Risk: GenAl models may	In addition to the safeguards in Common Risks/Safeguards regarding bias:	
unintentionally introduce or	Mitigation: Clearly document and explain how hiring decisions are made to	
perpetuate bias in hiring	ensure fairness and compliance with anti-discrimination laws.	
processes, leading to		
discriminatory practices (e.g.,		
favoring or disfavoring candidates		
based on gender, ethnicity, or		
other protected characteristics).		

Risk : GenAl may inadvertently violate laws regarding equal opportunity employment by relying on non-compliant criteria for candidate assessment.	Mitigation: Incorporate legal reviews into the hiring workflows to verify that outputs comply with relevant employment regulations. Mitigation: Implement constraints within GenAl systems to disallow processing or consideration of protected attributes.
Risk: Sensitive data might be inadvertently exposed to unauthorized parties in an open environment (e.g., public Wi-Fi, shared workspaces, or nonsecured devices).	In addition to the safeguards in Common Risks/Safeguards regarding exposure of sensitive information: Mitigation: Require secure connections (e.g., VPNs, HTTPS) when handling sensitive data in open environments. Mitigation: Ensure devices used in open environments are equipped with firewalls, antivirus software, and updated security patches. Mitigation: Implement Data Loss Prevention solutions to monitor and prevent sensitive data from being transmitted outside authorized channels.
Risk: GenAl may inadvertently violate laws regarding equal opportunity employment by relying on non-compliant criteria for candidate assessment.	Mitigation: Incorporate legal reviews into the hiring workflows to verify that outputs comply with relevant employment regulations. Mitigation: Implement constraints within GenAl systems to disallow processing or consideration of protected attributes. Mitigation: Train personnel to identify and mitigate risks of working with sensitive data in open environments (e.g., avoiding public Wi-Fi, locking screens when leaving devices unattended).
Risk: The compromise of GenAl systems or outputs could expose highly sensitive national security or intelligence data, potentially endangering public safety or operational integrity.	In addition to the safeguards in Common Risks/Safeguards regarding exposure of sensitive information: Mitigation: Use physically isolated environments to process national security data, ensuring GenAl tools are disconnected from external networks. Mitigation: Implement stringent clearance procedures for individuals accessing GenAl systems used for national security. Mitigation: Use data compartmentalization to ensure that only specific, authorized segments of data are accessible to any given process or user.
Risk: Adversaries or insiders might intentionally manipulate GenAl outputs to mislead or disrupt decision-making processes related to national security.	Mitigation: Require multiple layers of review and cross-validation by authorized intelligence personnel. Mitigation: Maintain immutable logs of GenAl inputs, processing, and outputs for forensic auditing. Mitigation: Frequently audit and test models to ensure they are not compromised or manipulated.
Risk: GenAl systems may become specific targets of nation-state adversaries or advanced threat actors aiming to disrupt or infiltrate intelligence workflows.	Mitigation: Deploy advanced cybersecurity measures such as intrusion prevention systems, endpoint detection and response (EDR), and zero-trust architecture (ZTA). Mitigation: Use updated threat intelligence feeds to anticipate and mitigate evolving APT tactics. Mitigation: Establish robust recovery mechanisms to ensure continuity of operations in the event of a successful attack.

Confidential Data Handling

e.g., processing or analyzing medical records or health data		
Risk: GenAl systems may	In addition to the safeguards in Common Risks/Safeguards regarding lack of	
inadvertently process or generate	compliance with laws and regulations:	
outputs that violate health-specific	Mitigation: Ensure that GenAl systems are explicitly designed to comply with	
legal or regulatory requirements	health data regulations like HIPAA.	
for data protection.	Mitigation: Create and enforce tailored policies for the use of GenAl in	
	healthcare contexts.	

Risk : GenAl may produce outputs that misinterpret medical data (e.g., symptoms, diagnoses, treatment plans), leading to incorrect or unsafe conclusions.	In addition to the safeguards in Common Risks/Safeguards regarding inaccuracies: Mitigation: Limit GenAl usage to non-critical medical contexts unless extensively validated.
Risk: GenAl's use of health data could lead to unintended ethical dilemmas, such as perpetuating biases in diagnoses or treatments.	In addition to the safeguards in Common Risks/Safeguards regarding biases: Mitigation: Obtain explicit patient consent before using their health data in GenAl systems. Mitigation: Involve ethics boards to oversee and evaluate the application of GenAl in healthcare.

Resident (Public) Facing

e.g., chatbots that residents (public) interact with to find web resources and information		
e.g., direct contact with the public, customer service, public relations, jurisprudence		
e.g., output provides recommendations, legal, tax, regulatory compliance advice, benefit qualifications		
Risk: Crafty inputs can train the	Mitigations: Create a test plan and include various crafty prompts that try to	
back end LLM.	get the LLM to respond in an unintended manner.	
Risk: liability for the actions or	Mitigation: Include legal in the review process.	
statements of the GenAl tools	Mitigation : Provide a banner somewhere on the tool that indicates something	
used by residents.	along the lines of "GenAl can make mistakes, double-check important	
	information."	
Risk: liability for non-compliance	Mitigation: Review all relevant Generative Al laws and regulations and	
with laws and regulations.	incorporate requirements into the build of the tools (e.g., statements,	
	disclaimers, banners, that are in Gov Codes).	

Mobile Device

e.g., mobile GenAl solutions and GenAl app Downloads		
Risk: GenAl apps may be	Mitigations: Establish an acceptable use policy outlining permitted and	
downloaded and misused by staff.	prohibited downloads on company devices.	
	Mitigations Configure devices to disable app store downloads prior to issuing phones.	
	Mitigations: Restrict all app downloads to the company portal.	
	Mitigations: Enforce the use of company certificates as a prerequisite for	
	downloading apps on devices.	
Risk: GenAl may be built into	Mitigations: Disable GenAl mobile capabilities, including GenAl intelligence	
mobile devices resulting in	features.	
inadvertent disclosures of		
sensitive & confidential info		
Risk: Work and Personal data	Mitigations: Configure devices to prevent logging out of company accounts,	
may be mixed causing data	ensuring mobile devices remain subject to mobile device management (MDM)	
ownership issues.	configurations.	

VI. Definitions

Relevant definitions for this guidance are available in SAM 4819.2 and 5300.4

Resident Facing Service refers to any service or application that interacts directly with residents or the public. This typically involves systems or tools that provide information, make decisions, or deliver services to residents.

Human Verification is the process in which one or more people review and validate the output generated by an automated system, such as a GenAl tool, to ensure its accuracy, correctness, and alignment with factual information before it is used or implemented. This step acts as a safeguard against errors or misleading content produced by the automated system.

VII. References

Please refer to the latest version of the following resources when implementing this standard:

- 1. Generative Artificial Intelligence https://www.genai.ca.gov/
- Algorithm Risk Management Ethics & Algorithms Toolkit (beta) (ethicstoolkit.ai)
- 3. Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Framework (AIRMF1.0) https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/ai/nist.ai.100-1.pdf
- 4. Al Risk Management Framework: https://www.nist.gov/itl/ai-risk-management-framework/
- 5. Definition of High-Risk Automated Decision System: https://legiscan.com/CA/text/AB302/id/2814759
- 6. Executive Department State of California Executive Order N-12-23 https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/AI-EO-No.12--GGN-Signed.pdf
- 7. Federal Information Processing Standards, Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems (FIPS 199) https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/fips/nist.fips.199.pdf
- 8. California Government Operations Agency website GovOps | Government Operations (ca.gov)
- NIST Special Publication 800-53 Security & Privacy Controls for Information Systems & Organizations https://csrc.nist.gov/pubs/sp/800/53/r5/upd1/final
- 10. Statewide Administrative Manual (SAM) policies: https://www.dgs.ca.gov/en/Resources/SAM/TOC/

- 11. Statewide Information Management Manual (SIMM) policies: https://cdt.ca.gov/policy/simm/#SIMM
- 12. San José Generative AI Guidelines https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/100095/638255600904300000/
- 13. San José Digital Privacy and GenAl Manual https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/82093/637889898788170000/
- 14. State of California Benefits and Risks of Generative Artificial Intelligence Report State of California Benefits and Risks of Generative Artificial Intelligence Report

VIII. Questions

Please reference SIMM 71B for questions regarding procurement. For all other inquiries and implementation of this standard, please contact the California Department of Technology, Office of Information Security at Security@state.ca.gov.