

Cyber Insurance Prep Checklist

Prepare your organization for cyber insurance applications and renewals with this ~~comprehensive~~ checklist.

1. Security Fundamentals

These are baseline security controls that nearly all cyber insurers require. Ensure these are in place and documented before applying.

- ☐ Multi-factor authentication (MFA) enabled for all remote access
- ☐ MFA enabled for email access (especially Microsoft 365/Google Workspace)
- ☐ MFA enabled for privileged/administrative accounts
- ☐ Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR) deployed on all endpoints
- ☐ Email filtering and anti-phishing controls in place
- ☐ Regular automated backups with offline/immutable copies
- ☐ Backup restoration tested within the last 6 months

2. Access Control & Identity

- ☐ Privileged Access Management (PAM) solution implemented
- ☐ Principle of least privilege enforced for all accounts
- ☐ Regular access reviews conducted (at least quarterly)
- ☐ Terminated employee access revoked within 24 hours
- ☐ Service account inventory maintained and reviewed
- ☐ Password policy meets industry standards (length, complexity, rotation)
- ☐ Single Sign-On (SSO) implemented where possible

3. Network Security

- ☐ Network segmentation implemented between critical systems
- ☐ Firewall rules reviewed and documented within last year
- ☐ Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) not exposed to internet
- ☐ VPN with MFA required for all remote access
- ☐ Intrusion detection/prevention systems deployed
- ☐ DNS filtering implemented to block malicious domains
- ☐ Wireless networks secured and segmented from production

4. Vulnerability Management

- ☐ Regular vulnerability scanning performed (at least monthly)
- ☐ Critical vulnerabilities patched within 14 days
- ☐ High vulnerabilities patched within 30 days
- ☐ Patch management process documented and followed
- ☐ End-of-life systems inventoried with remediation plans
- ☐ Third-party/vendor software included in patching program

5. Incident Response & Business Continuity

- ☐ Documented incident response plan exists
- ☐ Incident response plan tested within last 12 months
- ☐ 24/7 incident response contact identified
- ☐ Relationship with incident response retainer/vendor established

- ☐ Business continuity plan documented and tested
- ☐ Disaster recovery capabilities tested within last 12 months
- ☐ Cyber insurance policy details accessible during an incident

6. Security Awareness & Training

- ☐ Annual security awareness training for all employees
- ☐ Phishing simulation exercises conducted regularly
- ☐ Role-based security training for IT/security staff
- ☐ Security policies acknowledged by all employees annually
- ☐ New hire security training included in onboarding

7. Documentation & Governance

Insurers often request documentation to verify security controls. Ensure the following are current and accessible.

- ☐ Information security policy documented and approved
- ☐ Data classification policy in place
- ☐ Acceptable use policy signed by all employees
- ☐ Third-party risk management program documented
- ☐ Privacy policy aligned with applicable regulations
- ☐ Board/executive security reporting established
- ☐ Security metrics and KPIs tracked and reported

8. Application Information

Gather this information before starting your insurance application.

Annual Revenue

Number of Employees

Industry/Sector

Number of Records/Customers

Geographic Locations

Previous Cyber Incidents (last 3 years)

Current/Desired Coverage Amount