



**Risk Checklist**  
December 2022

# Business Continuity Planning Checklist

*Weather events. Pandemic. Cyberattacks.*

*These are all potential reasons to enact a business continuity plan, and it is critical that your institution has a plan in place and is ready to execute it as needed.*

*Follow this checklist to mitigate business risk and continue serving accountholders during an unplanned event.*

# Business Continuity Planning Checklist

- Build response measures that will address any impact to accountholder needs; such as financial, product, communication, and service support needs, including:
  - Identify communication strategies, messaging, and channels for affected or potentially impacted accountholders
  - How accountholders can reach out for support
  - Any action that is required of accountholders to keep themselves or their information secure
  - Warnings about fraudulent communications or potential phishing scams
- Map out plans to address any potential scenario that would affect your core business or accountholder service operations.
- Proactively consult with staff members, suppliers, and service providers regarding how you will tap them for recovery assistance, should you need it.
- Identify facilities, systems, and procedures that will allow for the continuance of critical operations in the event a large number of employees become unavailable for a prolonged period.
- Make plans for purchasing or renting the equipment needed to continue running your business.
- Define which roles can operate out of alternative workspaces to continue operating your business and serving your accountholder if one or more offices close.
- Identify contingency plans to address any potential damage caused by a potential disaster. These should include:
  - Building damage
  - Power outages
  - Road closures
  - Alarm system or building security failures
  - Phone or internet malfunctions
  - Supplier shipment issues
- Evaluate systems for any security breaches, documenting and reporting any common points of compromise immediately.

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- Build plans that specifically address pandemic response and recovery procedures. These should include:
  - Multi-phased preparation and response procedures that align with the severity of the pandemic exposure – i.e. plans for when outbreak first hits the nation, versus plans for when a member of your staff contracts the virus
  - Exposure monitoring procedures
  - Employee education materials or programs
  - Internal and external communication strategies
  - Vendor contingency plans
  - Rules for employee hygiene
  - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirement guidelines and corresponding supplies for employees and branch visitors
- Develop a committee to plan, manage, and oversee continuity plans.
- Develop an oversight committee to review plans year-over-year and ensure policies, standards, and procedures to sustain compliance and effectiveness.
- Define a clear chain of command and authority to employ, clearly stating decision makers if an event occurs.
- Keep an employee roster with employees' addresses, phone numbers, or non-work email addresses.
- Develop procedures for safely backing up print and electronic data in case computers or servers are destroyed.
- Develop procedures for documenting intellectual data. Share with employees on a regular basis.
- Test recovery and response plans to ensure that the practices and capabilities will work effectively and allow critical operations to continue.
- Share contingency plans with staff, making everyone understands what to do and where to go in the event of a disaster or pandemic.
- Invest in comprehensive bond coverage to protect your financial institution from expected losses.

**Contact us for support with developing your business continuity plan:**  
[alliedsolutions.net/contact-us](https://alliedsolutions.net/contact-us).